

### Arafat in Egypt to meet Mubarak

CAIRO (AFP) — Palestinian President Yasser Arafat arrived here on Wednesday to brief Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on his meetings in Washington with U.S. President Bill Clinton and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Mubarak's top political advisor Osama Al Baz welcomed Arafat at Cairo international airport, officials said. Arafat did not make any statement on his arrival but his aide Nabil Abu Rudeina said in statements to the Cairo press that the Palestinian president would brief Mubarak on his talks in Washington.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جورديان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

### Iraq's envoy to U.N. refuses to return to Baghdad

CAIRO (AP) — Saddam Hussein's half brother, who served as Iraq's ambassador to the U.N. headquarters in Geneva, has refused to return to Iraq after his diplomatic service ended last month. Iraqi dissidents and Arab diplomats said Wednesday. His defection would mark the second-biggest break in Saddam's troubled family since the end of the 1991 Gulf War. Saddam's two sons-in-law defected to Amman, Jordan, in 1995, only to be killed upon their return to Iraq six months later.

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## Israeli Arab clashes spread to Nazareth

TEL AVIV (R) — A surge of unrest among Arabs in Israel spread to the historic city of Nazareth on Wednesday after the apparent failure of an attempt by Israeli President Ezer Weizman to ease tensions.

Weizman had earlier visited the northern town of Umm Al-Fahm, where disturbances began on Sunday over land confiscations, but residents said clashes with security forces had continued into the night there for a third straight day.

"The president's visit didn't lead to anything. He didn't bring any solutions," said Suleiman Fahmawi, a member of the Umm Al-Fahm action committee.

A municipal spokesman in Nazareth, hallowed to Christians as the place where Jesus grew up and Israel's largest Arab city, said protesters had pelted the local police station with stones and bottles after security forces raided two homes of a prominent local family.

The spokesman, Ramzi Hakim, said police responded with tear gas. Hakim said Nazareth's Arab mayor Ramez Jarayseh had also staged a sit-in demonstration inside the police station for several hours until police allowed him to leave with 13 people they had detained in the raids.

One of the houses raided was that of Misbah Zayyad, a leader of the Arab Democratic Front Party, and the other the family home of his late brother Tawfik Zayyad, a former mayor of Nazareth and prominent Arab writer.

Hakim said by telephone. "They beat people inside the houses. Some of them have serious wounds and were taken to hospital," he said. Israeli police were not available for comment. Other Israeli officials also could not be contacted following the start of Yom Kippur, the holiest day in the Jewish calendar.

This week's violence has been the worst in more than 20 years involving Israeli Arabs, who make up nearly one million of Israel's population of almost six million and complain of deep discrimination.

The unrest began on Sunday when police tried to remove protesters who had pitched tents in a village near Umm Al-Fahm on land the army wants to expropriate for a firing range.

Hundreds of people have been wounded and scores detained in the ensuing disturbances. Workers at the Umm Al-Fahm clinic said medical staff there had treated about 30 people for injuries on Wednesday, three of whom needed surgery, before the day's unrest died down.

Earlier, witnesses said paramilitary police fired rubber-coated bullets and tear gas at hundreds of stone-throwers in Umm Al-Fahm and Nazareth during protests that accompanied a general strike in Arab towns in Israel.

The general strike was the second called this year by Israeli Arabs. The previous stoppage in April followed clashes with police over house demolitions.

AMMAN — The government on Wednesday moved swiftly to address a public scare raised when more than 300 students complained of nausea and dizziness this week after being vaccinated for diphtheria and tetanus.

As of yesterday evening, Ministry of Health officials and medical staff from various governorates confirmed that only a few youths between the age of 11 and 15 were being kept in hospital under observation as a precautionary measure.

"We want to reassure people that the situation is really under control and that some communities over-reacted as the first news of students being admitted to hospitals spread," Health Minister Nael Ajlouni told the Jordan Times on Wednesday.

Most of the children who were referred to hospitals between Monday and Wednesday complained of fever, dizziness, headache, nausea, and local swelling.

Ajlouni said the symptoms presented by most students referred to hospital were normal after the inoculation of the D&T vaccine, although the number of cases of high susceptibility to the inoculation was slightly above the average and a few cases required particular attention.

The D&T shots were administered in a nationwide immunisation campaign launched by the Ministry of Health on Sept. 14.

One health ministry official told the Jordan Times that the vaccines, which were donated by the United Nations Children's Fund, could have been slightly contaminated with vaccines for other diseases, thus provoking symptoms such as nausea, dizziness and headache.

"Little traces of whooping cough vaccine in the [tetanus] vaccines, for example, could produce such symptoms (for 24 hours following the administration of the shot)," Ajlouni said.

"But I am really confident that there is nothing wrong with either our vaccination system, which has been rated among the best in the world by international agencies, or the vaccines themselves."

Ajlouni ruled out the possibility that the undesirable effects of the vaccines could have been caused by improper storage or refrigeration of the serum.

"I deny this with great confidence. Two days ago I toured many hospitals and health centres in the south and personally inspected storing procedures and facilities," Ajlouni said.

Statistics support the validity of this statement, he said, because the same vaccine was administered to more than 16,000 girls and boys, and only a small percentage of them complained of some symptoms.

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## Ajlouni: Vaccination case is under control

By Francesca Ciriaci



Doctor Khalid Hyari checks a patient from Ain Al Basha High School for Girls who was suffering symptoms after inoculation Wednesday (Photo by Yousef 'Allan)

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Experts were dispatched by the ministry of health yesterday to all governorates, with the mandate to inspect all facilities where the D&T vaccines had been stored.

Some 160 students were reported to have been treated for dizziness and nausea on Tuesday.

But more students were referred to hospital on Wednesday in various governorates, partly in the wake of the media coverage which heightened people's concerns.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported that two students in Ramtha, three students in Jerash, and 23 students in Salt were all referred to hospital complaining of nausea, fever and headache.

They were all dismissed, Petra reported. "I visited six children still at the Jordan University Hospital and I have seen that they present only minor symptoms," Ajlouni said, adding that all six were expected to be dismissed later in the day.

Three children were still hospitalised at Queen Alia Military Hospital, but they were also expected to be dismissed soon, according to the minister.

Twenty-five students from a public school in Abu Alanda were referred to Al Bashir Hospital yesterday.

"They were complaining of very minor symptoms, such as headache and little swelling, and none of them was admitted into hospital," the minister said.

The investigating team was also receiving reports of students complaining of low fever, headaches and local swelling from different governorates, but "the cases are sporadic and all minor," Ajlouni stressed.

The declared expiration date for pharmaceuticals indicates the safest possible deadline to use the product," Abu Laban told journalists at the same press conference.

The U.S. company was identified as Solkronic Chemicals Inc. in Morrisville, Pennsylvania. A copy of the document was printed on the front page of the newspaper, which did not say how it acquired the document.

Nearly six years after the accident, controversies still surround the plane's cargo, despite repeated investigations. Ahead of the report, the

burning of these chemicals following the accident was to blame for health complaints by residents near the crash site.

The Boeing 747-200 crashed into an apartment complex in southern Amsterdam on Oct. 4, 1992, killing 43 people. Israeli officials said earlier the plane did not carry any dangerous materials.

A spokesman for the Dutch Transport Ministry declined comment on the report, saying all the details concerning the plane's cargo were announced previously.

According to NRC, the amount of dimethyl methylphosphonate on board was enough to produce up to 270 kilograms of the nerve gas.

The raw material is also used in building materials as a flame retardant.

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## 8 Arabs, 3 Israeli soldiers injured in Hebron attack

HEBRON (AFP) — Eight Palestinians and three Israeli soldiers were injured when two crude bombs were thrown at an Israeli army vehicle in this West Bank town on Wednesday, witnesses and doctors said.

Three Israeli soldiers in an army jeep were wounded, one seriously, in the attack carried out with two home-made explosive devices in the Jewish settler enclave in the West Bank town, they said.

Doctors at a Hebron hospital told AFP that eight Palestinian passers-by were also hurt in the blasts.

Two cars belonging to Palestinians were set ablaze, witnesses said. Hebron is a flashpoint for Israeli-Arab violence due to the presence of some 400 zealous Jewish settlers in the city of 130,000 Palestinians.

A Palestinian opened fire with a pistol on Monday on a group of Israelis visiting the Jewish settlement in Hebron, wounding a 40-year-old woman in the leg.

The Palestinian shot at the group, made up mostly of high school students, as they walked along a road joining two quarters of the Jewish settler enclave which is located in the heart of Hebron.

Israel withdrew from most of Hebron in January 1997 under interim peace accords with the Palestinians, but its army remains in control of one-fifth of the city where the settlers live.

RAMALLAH (AFP) — An Israeli-Arab double agent detonated the bomb which killed a Hamas Islamist here on Tuesday and wounded two others, a senior Palestinian security official charged Wednesday.

The official, who requested anonymity, said that the bomb had been given to Hamas Islamist Zahran Zahran by an Israeli-Arab arms dealer known as Abu Fahed who is believed to have been working for the Israeli secret service Shin Bet.

Zahran was killed instantly and two other members of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) wounded when the bomb exploded in the trunk of their car, a Volkswagen Golf with Israeli licence plates. All three were members of Hamas wanted by both Israeli and Palestinian security services.

Palestinian security sources said the bomb may have been intended for a suicide attack on Israel to coincide with Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement which began at sundown Tuesday.

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Fahed, originally from the village of Taybeh, north of Tel Aviv, triggered the bomb by remote control as soon as it had been placed in the trunk of the vehicle, the Palestinian official said.

He said Fahed, who had sold weapons to Zahran in the past, had also given him the three pistols, two grenades and other explosives which were found in the car.

He condemned the operation by the Israeli secret service and said it "seriously heightens tension and harms Palestinian security."

Zahran was buried in the West Bank village of Biddu on Wednesday at a funeral attended by some 2,000 people.

One Palestinian was wounded by rubber coated bullets when Israeli soldiers fired on stone-throwing youths during the funeral, witnesses said.

Hamas is opposed to Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's peace deals with Israel and has claimed responsibility for bomb attacks which have killed scores of Israelis in recent years.

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## Crashed El Al cargo jet carried raw material for deadly sarin gas

AMSTERDAM (AP) — An Israeli El Al cargo jet that crashed in Amsterdam six years ago was carrying chemicals used to produce the deadly sarin nerve gas, a Dutch newspaper reported Wednesday.

The plane was carrying 190 liters of the chemical identified as dimethyl methylphosphonate when it crashed into an apartment block outside Amsterdam in 1992, according to the respected national daily NRC Handelsblad.

Citing a freight document, the newspaper said the chemical came from

an American company in Pennsylvania and was headed for the Israel Institute for Biological Research in Ness Ziona near Tel Aviv.

The U.S. company was identified as Solkronic Chemicals Inc. in Morrisville, Pennsylvania. A copy of the document was printed on the front page of the newspaper, which did not say how it acquired the document.

Nearly six years after the accident, controversies still surround the plane's cargo, despite repeated investigations. Ahead of the report, the

burning of these chemicals following the accident was to blame for health complaints by residents near the crash site.

The Boeing 747-200 crashed into an apartment complex in southern Amsterdam on Oct. 4, 1992, killing 43 people. Israeli officials said earlier the plane did not carry any dangerous materials.

A spokesman for the Dutch Transport Ministry declined comment on the report, saying all the details concerning the plane's cargo were announced previously.

According to NRC, the amount of dimethyl methylphosphonate on board was enough to produce up to 270 kilograms of the nerve gas.

The raw material is also used in building materials as a flame retardant.

Four main components are needed for the production of sarin and three of them were on board the El Al jet, said the daily.

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## Aziz sounds out U.N. members over resuming Iraqi cooperation

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) — Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz on Wednesday continued to sound out members of the U.N. Security Council on a deal for resuming cooperation with U.N. arms inspectors.

Aziz met Wednesday with Britain's permanent representative, Sir Jeremy Greenstock, after a working dinner the previous night with representatives from three of the four other permanent

members of the council, Russia, France and China. Diplomats say Aziz has signalled in his meetings his willingness to meet U.N. demands that Iraq resume cooperation with U.N. arms inspectors, which Baghdad halted on August 5.

But before Iraq does so, Aziz is looking to win "guarantees and details" concerning a comprehensive review of international sanctions promised by the

Security Council, a western diplomat told AFP. "The Iraqis want a time frame and to know exactly what needs to be done," to obtain a lifting of U.N. sanctions, another diplomat said.

The Security Council has said Iraq must resume cooperation with inspectors as a precondition before the United Nations will conduct a comprehensive review of Iraq's compliance with

sanctions imposed on it since its 1990 invasion of Kuwait. Aziz is due to meet U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Friday for the second time this week after he completes his consultations.

He has met all of the permanent Security Council members except the United States as well as representatives from many of the 10 non-permanent members.

## Qatar submits report to World Court on disputed islands

DOHA (AP) — Qatar submitted a report Wednesday to the International Court of Justice, seeking to refute Bahrain's allegations that it used forged documents to stake claim over disputed territories.

The report provides proof that the ownership documents it submitted to the World Court were authentic, said a Qatari official who spoke on condition of anonymity. He did not give details.

Neighbours Bahrain and Qatar have been feuding since the mid-1980s over water boundaries, the Hawar islands in the Gulf and the Zubara land strip in Qatar where Bahrain's royal family used to live 200 years ago.

Qatar was asked by the World Court to provide an interim report "as comprehensive and specific as possible" by Sept. 30 in reply to allegations in April by Bahrain's Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammad bin Mubarak Al Khalifa.

Sheikh Mohammad told the World Court, which is based in the Hague, Netherlands, that 10 international experts who examined 75 Qatari documents found them to be forged.

Earlier this year, Bahrain unveiled plans to develop and link the Hawar Islands to the mainland with a 22.5-kilometre bridge.

Bahrain has already constructed a hotel on the tourist resort island and launched a hovercraft service last year.

## U.N. Gulf war compensation body awards \$691 million

GENEVA (AFP) — The U.N. commission handling 1990 Gulf war compensation claims Wednesday awarded almost \$691 million to thousands of individuals affected by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

The U.N. Compensation Commission (UNCC) made available \$519.5 million to 207,808 claimants who had been forced to depart their countries following Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's attempt to annex Kuwait.

These are known as category "A" claims. The UNCC's governing council, currently holding its 29th session in Geneva, also granted \$171.2 million earmarked for 70,557 individuals

covering individual losses of up to \$100,000. These fall into the "C" bracket.

These payments, which represent the fourth instalment of category "A" and "C" payouts, bring the overall amount of compensation handed out by the UNCC to date to almost \$1.92 billion.

The funding comes from the 30 per cent share of revenue allocated to the UNCC from Iraqi oil sales under the U.N. "oil-for-food" deal.

Under this programme, Iraq is currently allowed to sell \$5.2 billion worth of crude every six months in return for humanitarian supplies.

However, Iraq, which has been under U.N. sanctions since its invasion of Kuwait, said the most it could produce, given its dilapidated oil industry and low oil prices, was \$4.5 billion worth.

Claimants receive an initial payment of up to \$2,500 each. The UNCC has ruled that all Category "A" and "C" claims be honoured first before corporations, governments or individuals with claims greater than \$100,000 are compensated.

The UNCC had completed payouts of \$13.5 million for category "B" claims covering individuals' injuries and death by 1995.

## Press group urges release of Syrian writer

AMMAN (R) — A U.S.-based press freedoms group has called for the release of jailed Syrian journalist Nizar Nayyuf, saying he was gravely ill and had been detained solely for speaking out about human rights in Syria.

The Committee to Protect Journalists said Nayyuf was arrested in 1992 and sentenced to 10 years in prison. It said he was suffering from cancer and had been refused treatment by Syrian authorities.

"[We] have recently learned

that Nayyuf is gravely ill and may die unless he receives immediate treatment for Hodgkin's disease, a form of cancer that can be cured with the proper medical attention," the group wrote in a letter it said was hand-delivered to Foreign Minister Farouk Sharaa on Tuesday.

"We are aware that Syrian authorities have refused him treatment for this disease unless he pledges to refrain from political activity and renounces alleged 'false statements' he made about the

human rights situation in Syria," it said.

A copy of the letter, signed by former hostage Terry Anderson who was held in Lebanon for seven years, was faxed to Reuters in Jordan.

The group said Nayyuf was also suffering from kidney failure and paralysis of his "lower extremities."

Nayyuf is a member of the Committee for the Defence of Democratic Freedoms and Human Rights in Syria and editor of its monthly Sawt Al Demokratiyya.

## 'Four Algerian soldiers killed'

ALGIERS (R) — Four Algerian soldiers and 18 Muslim rebels were killed in a weekend battle which lasted about 12 hours in the southwest of the country, newspapers said on Wednesday.

Troops surrounded the guerrilla hideout last week before the fighting took place between Sunday and Monday in the province of Saïda, Le Matin daily said.

Algerian state-run television,

quoting government security forces, said on Tuesday 15 rebels were killed but did not report any government casualties.

In another incident, two civilians were killed on Monday in a bomb explosion in Sifef area in Sid Bel Abbes province, 370 km west of Algiers, Al Khabar newspaper said on Wednesday.

Al Khabar said members of the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), Algeria's ruthless guer-

rilla faction, planted the bomb. The reported blast was the latest in a series of bombings in the past six years in which thousands of civilians have died in the North African country.

A bomb exploded on Sunday near a school in Khemiss town, 100 km (62 miles) west of Algiers, killing eight people, including four schoolboys, and wounding 24 others, according to newspapers and security forces.



VOICES IN THE WILDERNESS ON MISSION: U.S. activist Chuck Quilty, a member of the Voices in the Wilderness group, which is campaigning against sanctions on Iraq. Wednesday holds up pictures of Iraqi children at a news conference in Jordan. Quilty said most of the children in the recently-taken pictures had died because of food or medical shortages caused by the sanctions. Voices in the Wilderness has urged U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan to scrap the eight-year sanctions, which it said was destroying a whole generation of Iraqis (Reuters photo)

## 'Saudi Arabia froze relations with Taliban over Ben Laden'

RIYADH (AFP) — A Saudi newspaper which reflects official opinion, said on Wednesday that the kingdom froze relations with the Taliban militia in Afghanistan over its support for Saudi dissident Osama Ben Laden.

"Can we continue to accept the Taliban's position and to encourage them, even as they give asylum and protection to allow terrorists to proclaim their acts to the media?" the Okaz daily said.

"The kingdom can no longer accept the Taliban's procrastinations, nor the fact that they are avoiding their responsibilities by sheltering terrorists and criminals," the daily said.

It was the first comment from a Saudi newspaper on the issue since Riyadh expelled the Taliban's charge d'affaires from the kingdom on Sept. 23 and recalled its own charge d'affaires from Kabul.

"We were surprised that they (the Taliban) opened

their arms and welcomed Ben Laden after his departure from Sudan. They allowed him to claim responsibility for terrorist acts," the newspaper said.

Ben Laden has been accused by the U.S. State Department of being responsible for anti-U.S. bombings in Saudi Arabia as well as last month's twin U.S. embassy bombings in east Africa.

Five U.S. soldiers were killed in a 1995 attack in Riyadh and another 19 died in June 1996 in a bombing at their barracks in Khobar, near the eastern city of Dhahran.

Ben Laden, a shadowy millionaire was rejected by his homeland of Saudi Arabia in 1994 for supporting violent Islamic groups in Egypt and Algeria and is now in exile in Afghanistan.

Okaz said that instead of "building their regime on a sound base and seeking international weight, the Taliban have transformed Afghanistan into a centre for

exporting terrorism." "We were shocked by the fact that have not revised their attitude despite the advice that has been given to them. They have instead opted for a confrontation with the world," the daily said.

"The Taliban's government is sacrificing Afghanistan and by its behaviour it is leading its country towards chaos," Okaz said, calling on the militia's leadership to "regain their senses" and "preserve what remains of their country and their people."

Saudi Arabia formally recognised the Taliban as the legitimate rulers of Afghanistan in May, following a similar decision by Pakistan. The United Arab Emirates is the only other country to recognise the militia.

But relations between Saudi Arabia and the Taliban have grown strained in recent months, with Riyadh saying it does not approve of the militia's brand of extremism.

## Palestinian opposition slams Arafat

DAMASCUS (AFP) — Two Palestinian opposition groups slammed Palestinian President Yasser Arafat on Wednesday for making concessions to Israel in accepting the latest U.S. plan for an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank.

"Arafat has made new concessions in accepting Israeli conditions, indicating that the Palestinian National Authority is following a policy destructive to the national rights of the

Palestinian people," a statement issued by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) in Damascus said. "We will continue the struggle by all means to regain full Palestinian national rights," the PFLP added.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) charged Arafat with having accepted Israeli conditions of only a 10 per cent withdrawal of its forces from the West Bank.

This leaves "Palestinian land to the colonisers and forgets Jerusalem, the Palestinians of the diaspora and border and water disputes," the DFLP, which is also Damascus-based, said in a statement.

The DFLP called for a referendum in the Palestinian territories and "the formulation of a new strategy (for the region) based on international resolutions and not on partial agreements."

## Court annuls regulations on school exam cheating

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Higher Court of Justice Wednesday annulled regulations on cheating during the tawjihi (public high school exams) that were recently issued by the Ministry of Education.

In a court session chaired by Judge Abdullah Murad and attended by Jamil Haddadin, Mushab Diab, Haitham Gharaibeh and Samir Qudah, the tribunal said the decision was made by a committee that had no authority to issue such regulations.

The general examinations committee annulled the test results of a student and prevented him from taking the examinations this year and next year.

The court said the regulations implemented by the committee in cases of cheating are illegal and are not in line with Article 23 of the Education Law, which gives authority to the minister of education to issue such regulations.

Since the regulations were issued by the examinations committee, which had no authority to do so, the decision to prevent Omar Jariri from taking his exams this year and next year is illegal. Consequently, the penalty imposed on the student was cancelled because the committee was not delegated the authority to issue such regulations.

The defendant's attorney, Hani Dahleh, said the ministry's law gives the minister the authority to issue rules and regulations regarding cheating on general examinations. Dahleh noted that the regulations have been in force for three years without being endorsed by the minister of education.

He said the decision will be relayed to the ministry to decide whether the student can take the exam this year or next year.

During an investigation conducted by an investigation panel this summer, Jariri admitted that he cheated during one of the examinations, saying that he wrote his colleague's name on his test paper instead of his name.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 4773111-19  
PROGRAMME TWO  
Thursday Programmes

15:10 .....Cartoon — Animated Hero Classics  
15:30 .....Drama — Star Runner  
16:00 .....Doc. — L'Ecole des Fans  
16:30 .....Doc. — Blue Water Dreaming  
17:00 .....NBA

18:15 .....Sliders  
19:00 .....Le Journal  
19:15 .....Science Magazine — (L'oeuf De Colomb)  
19:30 .....News Headlines  
19:35 .....Comedy — Family Matters  
20:00 .....The Great Romances  
20:30 .....Drama — Dr. Quinn the Medicine Woman

21:10 .....Oprah Winfrey  
22:00 .....News in English  
22:30 .....Feature film — "Aliens"  
23:59 .....Comedy — Can't Hurry Love  
00:30 .....End of T.X.

Friday Programmes  
15:10 .....Cartoon — The Adventures of Teddy Ruxpin  
15:30 .....The Borrowers  
16:00 .....Feature film — "Tornado"  
18:15 .....French quiz show — Les Cles de Fort Boyard  
19:00 .....Le Journal  
19:15 .....French Programme — Allo La Terre  
19:30 .....News Headlines  
19:35 .....Comedy — The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air  
20:00 .....Life on the Digital Edge  
20:30 .....Doc. — The Seven Wonders of the World  
21:10 .....Babylon-5  
22:00 .....News in English  
22:30 .....The X Files (Ep.7)  
23:10 .....Big Sky — Lost and

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Found 23:59 .....End of T.X.

### PRAYER TIMES

04:08 .....Fajr  
05:25 .....(Sunrise) Duha  
11:49 .....Dhuhr  
14:29 .....Asr  
17:26 .....Maghreb  
18:43 .....Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church  
Sweifeh, Tel. 5920740  
Assemblies of God Church Tel. 4632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 4624590  
Terra Sancta Church Tel. 4622366  
Anglican Church Tel. 4624853/4624811  
St. Afrem Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 4771751  
Amman International Church Tel. 5865897  
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 5688404  
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 5811295  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Tel. 4654932  
St. John the Baptist at De la Salle College Tel. 5661757  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 4637440  
Greek Orthodox Church Tel. 4646138  
Church of Presentation, Sweifeh Tel. 5920146  
The Uniate Catholic Church

Tel. 4624757  
The English-Language Catholic Parish Tel. 4614190  
Evangelical Free Church Tel. 4892679  
The Baptist Church Tel. 4628052  
The Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 4771331  
The Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 4775261

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology  
Temperatures are expected to drop gradually becoming moderate during the day and fine at night with temperatures slightly lower than average. Clouds will appear at low altitudes and winds northwesterly moderate to active. In Aqaba, temperatures are expected to dip with moderate weather conditions prevailing. winds northerly moderate, and seas calm.

Amman .....17/27  
Aqaba .....22/34  
Deserts .....15/30  
Jordan Valley .....21/33

Yesterday's high temperatures:  
Amman 33, Aqaba 36  
Humidity readings: Amman 31 per cent, Aqaba 51 per cent.

Following are the highest temperatures expected today in the following areas:

Ajloun .....25  
Jerash .....31  
Um Qays .....30  
Madaba .....29  
Petra .....30  
Dead Seas .....36

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY  
AMMAN:  
Dr. Abbas Haklan .....4885446  
Dr. Arafat Ashhab .....5602507  
Dr. Jamal Jorash .....5347351  
Dr. Ayman Al Muhtaseb .....4875748  
Firas pharmacy .....5661912  
Ferdows pharmacy .....778336  
Al Asema pharmacy .....4637055  
Nairookh pharmacy .....4623672  
Al Salam pharmacy .....4636730  
Yacoub pharmacy .....4644945  
Shmeisani pharmacy .....4637660  
Najib pharmacy .....5347632  
IRBID:  
Dr. Lutfi Shalabi .....241798  
Al Quds pharmacy .....(—)  
ZARQA:  
Dr. Hilal Al Sayyid .....3852902  
Khalifeh pharmacy .....985417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre .....4637111  
Civil Defence Department .....5661111  
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue .....4630341  
Civil Defence Emergency .....199  
Rescue Police 192 .....4621111, 4637777  
Fire Brigade .....4617101  
Blood Bank .....4775121

Highway Police .....5343402  
Traffic Police .....4896390  
Public Security Dept. ....4630321  
Hotel Complaints .....5605800  
Price Complaints .....5661176  
Water & Sewage Complaints .....4897467  
Amman Municipality Complaints .....4787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) .....121  
Overseas Calls .....010230  
Central Amman Telephone Repairs .....4623101  
Abdali Tel. Repairs .....5661101  
Jordan Television .....4773111  
Radio Jordan .....4774111  
Water Authority .....5680100  
J. Electricity Authority .....5815615  
Electric Power Co. ....4636381  
RJ Flight Information .....44-53200  
Queen Alia Intl. Airport .....44-53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery 5921199  
The Islamic Abdi .....5666131/7  
Hussien Medical Centre Tel. 5836856  
Luzmila .....4630195  
Khalidi Maternity .....4644281/6  
Akileh Maternity .....4642441/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity 4642362  
Malhas, J. Amman. ....4636140  
Palestine, Shmeisani .....5607071  
Shmeisani Hospital .....5669131  
University Hospital .....5353444  
Al-Muasher Hospital 5667227/9  
Al-Ahli, Abdali .....5664164/6  
Italian, Al-Muhajreen .....4777101/3  
Al-Bashir .....4775111/26  
Army, Marka .....4891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital 5602240/50

Amal Hospital .....5674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560  
Ibn Sina Hospital .....(09)986732  
Al Hikma Modern Hospital .....(09)990990

IRBID:  
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555  
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)27275  
Ibn Al Nafes Hospital (02)247100  
AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (44)53200 where it should always be verified. Information on other flights are supplied on phone 44 (52700) or 44 (53250).

### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
08:15 .....Sanaa (RJ)  
08:45 .....New Delhi (RJ)  
09:00 .....Bombay (RJ)  
09:05 .....Dhahran, Riyadh (RJ)  
09:25 .....Beirut (RJ)

### DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
05:45 .....Beirut (RJ)  
10:35 .....Al Ain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
11:15 .....Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)  
11:20 .....Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)  
11:45 .....Kuwait (RJ)  
12:10 .....Paris (RJ)  
12:20 .....Athens (RJ)  
12:25 .....London (RJ)  
19:35 .....Larnaca (RJ)  
20:15 .....Cairo (RJ)  
20:25 .....Jeddah (RJ)  
21:00 .....Dubai (RJ)  
23:30 .....Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta (RJ)

Other Flights  
07:55 .....Dubai (EK)  
10:00 .....Kuwait (KU)  
12:00 .....Riyadh (SV)  
13:10 .....Muscat, Abu Dhabi (GF)  
14:10 .....Sharjah (AH)  
14:40 .....Doha (QR)  
17:40 .....Beirut (ME)  
18:00 .....Paris (AF)  
19:25 .....Tel Aviv (LY)  
20:00 .....Cairo (MS)  
20:10 .....London (BA)  
22:20 .....Istanbul (TK)  
22:35 .....Larnaca (CY)  
23:05 .....Moscow (SU)  
00:15 .....Amsterdam, Beirut (KL)  
03:20 .....Tunis (TU)  
04:20 .....Antalia (TK)

Royal Wings (RW)  
(For Thursday and Friday)  
09:20 Aqaba (arriving at QAIA and proceeding to Marka Airport) (RW)  
17:00 Aqaba (arriving at Marka Airport on Thursday and Friday) (RW)  
19:20 .....Tel Aviv (arriving at QAIA on Friday only, (RW)  
21:35 .....Tel Aviv (arriving at QAIA on Thursday only) (RW)  
22:25 .....Aqaba (from Marka Airport) (RW)

Royal Wings  
(For Thursday and Friday)  
07:00 Aqaba (from Marka Airport) (RW)  
08:30 Aqaba (from Marka Airport on Thursday and Friday) (RW)  
19:45 .....Tel Aviv (from QAIA—on Thursday only) (RW)  
20:30 Aqaba (from QAIA) (RW)



Court  
annuls  
regulations  
on school  
exam  
cheating

## Local medical centre reports vaccine scare 'psychological'

By Dana Abu Sham

AIN AL BASHA — Most students referred to a clinic in this town just a few kilometres outside Amman on Wednesday were only psychologically reacting to the scare caused by reports that dozens of students were being admitted to hospitals the day before, doctors at the clinic said.

According to physician Khalid Hyari, students referred to his clinic on Wednesday were in normal condition despite receiving the vaccinations.

"The problem was mainly psychological due to the scare caused by the students who fell ill in different parts of the country after they were inoculated during the week," he said.

He said the centre treated 26 cases on Wednesday, including several from the nearby Ain Al Basha High School for Girls, who arrived suffering from a slight rise in temperature, headache, pain in the lower parts of the body and in some cases, blurred vision.

"Most girls were vaccinated on Saturday and any symptoms would have appeared in 24 hours," said Hyari.

"But the students who were treated today [Wednesday] were mostly panicky students."

"Students from four schools in the area were also vaccinated but not a single case from these was reported," he said.

Lina Ibrahim, a student at the Ain Al Basha school, said she suffered from head and stomach aches as well as nausea and fever after she was inoculated on Monday.

"But I only visited the doctor at the centre after hearing about the scare in the news."

Her school friend, Wafaa Nawaf, complained of similar symptoms but decided to go to the centre after the news broke out, spreading panic among her colleagues, she said.

Samir Awamleh, head of the Health Department in Balqa Governorate, said 41 cases were reported in Ain Al Basha, home to 35,000 residents. "Two of the cases were forwarded to Hussein Hospital in Salt from Ain Al Basha Health Centre while the rest were discharged," he said.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, meets with students who scored high on this year's tawjihi (Photo by Boghos)

## Crown Prince meets with top tawjihi students

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, met Tuesday evening with students who scored high on the tawjihi (public high school examinations) this year and discussed educational issues.

Among the questions reviewed at the two-hour meeting, which was attended by Education Minister Fawzi Gharaibeh, were scholarships, information available to students about higher education, adapting university education to the local labour market's needs, and students' future careers.

A number of university presidents also at the meeting answered questions raised by the students concerning educational courses and specialisations.

At the outset of the meeting, the Regent urged the students to redouble their efforts, because "high achievements do not end by entering college, but

rather will continue through practical methodology and wise steering and direction of potential."

The Crown Prince said the main requirement for students at present lies in the choice of specialisations which can meet the needs of the local labour market and society.

In his remarks to the students, who came from different towns, the budia and refugee camps, Prince Hassan said there is no disparity between the achievements of students from public or private schools or those run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency. But he noted that certain parts of the country still require attention.

He urged all public sectors to shoulder their responsibilities toward further deepening the sense of national belonging among youth and directing their efforts toward creating job opportunities.

A university degree should

not be considered an end in itself but rather a means of helping people better their community, the Regent said.

Prince Hassan expressed hope that in the coming two years the Kingdom would conduct its general census to provide information about the various population sectors and their needs to serve as a base for managing human and natural resources.

Questions raised during the meeting with the students constituted the main subjects discussed at a subsequent meeting chaired by Prince Hassan and attended by the university presidents, Royal Court Chief Javad Anani, and other officials.

It was agreed that a study should be conducted on the prospects of creating a social bank to invest funds in the form of soft loans to universities, which in turn will grant long-term soft loans to excellent and needy students.

According to the minister, the project will create 5,000 job opportunities in the southern Dead Sea area.

"The project will lead to integrated development in the area," Mulki said.

A diversion dam planned at the point where Wadi Mujib meets Wadi Waleh, in the heart of the Mujib Nature Reserve, "will not be constructed at the expense of the environment, and this is the most important thing," the minister stressed.

The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, which manages the Mujib Nature Reserve, welcomed recent government assurances that it would coordinate with the society to prevent any environmental damage to the reserve during

the construction of the dam.

According to the society, Mujib is one of the cleanest and least disturbed river systems left in Jordan. It is part of the water catchment for the Dead Sea and always has flowing water, even in the summer. It flows out to the Dead Sea through a narrow sandstone gorge lined with palm trees and lush vegetation.

Two weeks ago, a consortium of international and local companies signed four agreements worth JD6.4 million with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation to supervise and provide architectural services in the implementation of the JD180 million integrated project to develop the southern ghor area.

## Government announces measures to curb employment violations

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Faysal Tarawneh announced Wednesday that the government has begun taking measures to deal with unemployment and non-Jordanians working in the country illegally.

Speaking during a meeting at the Prime Ministry attended by a number of Cabinet ministers and officials to discuss the situation in the labour market, Tarawneh emphasised the government's determination to implement the law and regulations concerning illegal guest workers and unemployment.

Issues which the government are now tackling include organising the labour market and dealing with security, social, economic and political considerations in view of the large number of non-Jordanians currently living in the country.

Unemployment has been officially estimated at about 15 per cent, but independent sources say it could be as high as 25 per cent. An estimated 300,000 to 500,000 guest

workers live in the Kingdom, of whom only about 40 per cent hold valid work permits.

Stressing that the government will respect agreements reached with other Arab states concerning guest workers and employment, Tarawneh added that the new measures to be taken are an exercise of Jordan's sovereignty.

Tarawneh demanded that employers respect laws and regulations regarding the employment of foreign workers, saying that employers should not give work to non-Jordanians unless they acquire work permits in advance.

The participants at the meeting decided that the government will introduce a system to record the living and working places of non-Jordanian workers in the country; activate a special Public Security Department unit specialising in applying the employment law; strictly apply penalties, including fines of JD50-JD100 per month in addition to work permit fees,

against employers of illegal guest workers; and ask unemployed guest workers to leave the country and prosecute workers entering illegally.

Following the meeting, Tarawneh told Jordan Television that some guest workers enter the country illegally or overstay their visas to work a situation he said requires the intervention of concerned departments.

"We do not lack laws and regulations, but we do lack implementation of the law," the prime minister added.

He said the presence of non-Jordanian workers has had a direct impact on security and the labour market.

But Tarawneh denied that the new measures constituted a change in government philosophy or in Jordan's handling of workers from other Arab states, saying that they are intended simply to organise the labour market.

No visas will be issued to non-Jordanians except within

the framework of agreements reached with other Arab countries, said Tarawneh.

According to the prime minister, a legal committee formed by the Cabinet and chaired by Justice Minister Jawdat Shoul will next week begin consultations with ministers and directors of various departments prior to the preparation of labour regulations.

He said the PSD has the responsibility of implementing regulations concerning work places and residences of guest workers.

Tarawneh said unemployed non-Jordanians pose a security risk to the country.

But he said Jordan will apply the regulations in a civilised manner, adding that non-Jordanians working here legally will enjoy the protection of the law.

The prime minister added that some amendments will be introduced to existing laws, especially those concerning employment offices.

## 'Work on JD20 million Dead Sea infrastructure project under way'

By Ahmad Khatib

AMMAN — The government Wednesday said it has started a JD20 million project to develop the infrastructure of the southern Dead Sea area as tourist resort.

According to Minister of Water and Energy Hani Mulki, the project aims at providing services and facilities to residents and future hotels and tourist villages in the region.

Around six five-star hotels and resorts, such as Marriott and Mövenpick hotels, are under construction. In addition, Saudi Prince Al Waleed Ben Talal will invest in a tourist village.

In a seven-hour tour across the southern Jordan Valley,

Mulki told reporters that he expects JD200 million to be invested in the area.

"The government is working hard to develop the area into a tourist attraction by the year 2000," the minister said.

The tour also included a review of the Wadi Mujib dam plan, which will be part of an integrated project to develop the southern ghor area. "There is full cooperation with local authorities because in the end they will manage the project," he said.

Mulki said the area's archaeological sites and cultural features will be protected and integrated into the development plan.

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project will create 5,000 job opportunities in the southern Dead Sea area.

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## Man jailed for attack on embassy

AMMAN (AFP) — The State Security Court has sentenced a man to two-and-a-half years in prison with hard labour for throwing a petrol bomb at the British embassy, a court official said Wednesday.

Abed Azzam, in his early twenties, threw a molotov cocktail at the embassy in February amid rising tensions

between Iraq and the United Nations over weapons inspections.

The attack caused no damage or injury and Azzam was overpowered by embassy security staff. He was charged with carrying out a terrorist act.

Many Jordanians were angered at British and U.S. threats of military force against Iraq during the crisis, which was later resolved following mediation by U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan.

Azzam's sentence was halved from a possible five years in prison due to health considerations, the court official said.

## Amman launches initiative to cut down on street litter

By Lama Sidawi

AMMAN — The Greater Amman Municipality is spearheading efforts to enforce regulations banning drivers from littering streets as part of efforts to help keep the country clean, officials said Wednesday.

Students from private schools Tuesday joined the municipality's drive, distributing 400,000 white-coloured plastic bags to drivers at 45 traffic lights and intersections across the capital.

The municipality also

hung banners on main streets urging people to protect their environment and keep the country clean.

Article 68 of the Traffic Law sets a fine of between JD10 and JD50 for anyone who throws stones, oil and any other materials from their cars while driving.

"We are trying to work with the Traffic Department to reactivate this clause in the law in a bid to maintain the cleanliness of our streets," said a municipality official.

Amman boasts relatively clean streets thanks to

an army of garbage collectors manning most streets to pick up litter from cars or pedestrians and households.

Amman Mayor Nidal Hadid, who supervised the one-day campaign, said it was important for citizens to cooperate to maintain "the distinguished level of cleanliness Amman has been known for."

"Throwing litter out of cars is uncivilised behaviour," he added, referring to common scenes of people throwing tissue paper and bottles out of cars while driving.

Municipality officials said policemen helped them carry out the campaign, which cost almost nothing because the municipality had the plastic bags while 350 students from 11 schools volunteered to distribute them.

"Police and municipality employees were there to make sure it was safe for the students to distribute the bags among the vehicles," said one official.

"People in general reacted positively and liked the idea of the campaign."

## what's going on

### THE FOURTH JORDANIAN CHILDREN'S SONG FESTIVAL

\* Seminar on the Arab caricature personality at the Royal Cultural Centre on Thursday at 4:00 p.m.  
\* Performance of children's songs at the Royal Cultural Centre on Thursday and Friday at 6:00 p.m.

### DARAT AL FUNUN SUMMER '98 FESTIVAL

"Summer 98" cultural activities at Darat Al Funun, Jabal Weibdeh, to last until Oct. 8, include:

#### EXHIBITIONS

\* 50 years of graphic art from Lebanon and works by Jordanian artist Sahel Hiyari at the Main House.  
\* Works by Iraqi artist Samir Usama and by Jordanian artist Said Haddadin at the Blue House.  
\* Installation works by Jordanian artist Samia Zaru at the Byzantine Church.  
\* Exhibition of photographs "Memory of a Place" by Jordanian artist Hussein Da'seh at the Museum.

#### LECTURE

\* "Ancient Arab, Greek and Jewish Communities on the Dead Sea: Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Jordan" by Dr. Konstantinos Politis (sponsored by the Royal Institute For Inter-faith Studies in cooperation with the Embassy of Greece) at Le Meridien (formerly Forte Grand) on Saturday Oct. 3 at 5:30 p.m. (Tel. 5696183).

#### EXHIBITIONS

\* Amman Seventh International Book Exhibit at the City Hall, Ras Al 'Ain, until 10 Oct.  
\* Works by graduates of the Arts Centre (including ceramics, paintings, and sculpture) at the centre, Mahmoud Irani St. (Tel. 5529619), until Oct. 8.  
\* Exhibition of caricatures of Arab personalities at the Royal Cultural Centre, until Oct. 3.  
\* "Jordan-Kuwait Industrial Show '98" at the Amman International Auto Exhibit, Airport Road (Telefax 5690753), until Oct. 2.

## Man receives 15 years for manslaughter in connection with woman's death

By Rana Hussein

AMMAN — A 29-year-old man was sentenced to 15 years in prison Wednesday after being found guilty by the Criminal Court of manslaughter in connection with the shooting death of his ex-fiancee in Deir Alaa last year.

Mohammad Abed, who attempted to commit suicide immediately after the incident, was convicted by the tribunal of manslaughter in the death of Majdah M., 23, on August 25, 1997.

According to the charge sheet, the couple broke up two years ago, and Majdah, who was also Abed's cousin, later became engaged to another man.

"Abed tried desperately to return to Majdah, but she refused, so he followed her around and then sent

her letters threatening to kill her and her new fiancé," the court said.

On the evening of the incident, the defendant went to the farm nursery where Majdah worked, drew a gun and shot her six times in the face and neck, then shot himself, the court said.

The tribunal, presided over by Judge Ahmad Khatib and including Sami Karaki and Ibrahim Ali, decided to amend the pre-meditated murder charge filed by the prosecution.

"It was evident that the defendant killed his fiancée out of rage because he saw her walking with another man. He did not plot to kill her," the court said.

The verdict will automatically be reviewed by the Court of Cassation within 30 days.

#### Minor files retrial motion

Meanwhile, a 17-year-old testifying for the second time at the Criminal Court against three men, including a prominent Jordanian singer, accused of sexually assaulting her in April 1997 Wednesday said one of the defendants raped her.

Two of the three men, identified as T.N. and U.J., the singer, are charged with statutory rape, while the third defendant, J.A., is accused of rape.

The minor, who was tried and convicted in absentia in July 1997 of perjury by the Amman Criminal Court, "Wednesday changed her testimony for the second time and said T.N. did rape her."

In July 1997, she testified that she and T.N. did not have sexual relations,

prompting the court to order her immediate detention at a female juvenile centre on charges of perjury. She was later released on bail.

The defendant's attorneys told the Jordan Times that the minor, who has married and lives in the West Bank, "filed a motion yesterday at the Amman Criminal Court for a retrial."

"The minor wants a chance to testify at the Amman Criminal Court about her perjury conviction," said defence attorney Abdul Ghafor Abu Khalaf.

He added that she filed a similar request Wednesday at the Criminal Court, which adjourned the trial until Oct. 29 to await the new Amman Criminal Court ruling.

The minor dropped charges last year against the three men, but according to the Jordanian Penal Code, they must still be tried,

## Officers testify in trial of alleged extremists

By a Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Three police officers testifying at the State Security Court in the trial of 10 people, including a former policeman, accused of carrying out subversive acts Wednesday stated that their colleague appeared calm on the night of an attack attributed to the group.

Former police officer Khalid Tawfiq is one of the defendants standing trial on charges of possessing, transporting and manufacturing explosives with illicit intent, carrying out extremist attacks and belonging to an illegal organisation, known as "Reform and Challenge."

Three other people are being tried in absentia.

The three witnesses testified that on the night of April 22, when a police patrol station in Sweileh was attacked, "Khalid Tawfiq was calm and showed no reaction when the explosion occurred."

In addition to the police station attack, similar acts were carried out in May, including arson attacks at a hotel and a kindergarten and against former officials' cars.

The prosecution has charged that some of the group members met in 1994 and started attending religious lessons in their homes and decided to form a group to "change the reality in Jordan."

In February 1998, the group decided to launch attacks against government, security and some individuals' properties in addition to entertainment venues, and bought materials which they allegedly used to manufacture explosives.

Last week, all 10 defendants pleaded not guilty to the charges pressed against them.

The military tribunal, comprised Judges Youssef Faour, Tayel Raqad and Ahmad Ayash, adjourned the trial until Oct. 12 to hear the last six prosecution witnesses in the case.



JORDANIAN SITES IN PHOTO EXHIBITION: Jordanian artist Hussein Da'seh is currently exhibiting a series of photographs entitled "The Memory of the Place" documenting the country's historical sites at Darat Al Funun's summer festival. Da'seh, who studied painting and photography in Amman and Baghdad, has been photographing Jordan's historical and touristic sites since 1977. The Darat Al Funun Summer 98 Festival has been extended until Oct. 8 (Photo by Hussein Da'seh)



## Majko consults parties on forming new Albanian government

TIRANA (AFP) — Prime Minister-designate Pandeli Majko Wednesday opened talks to form a new broad-based coalition government, but opposition leaders called for more protests against the ruling Socialists.

Majko, who was approved as premier by President Rexhep Meidani Tuesday night following the surprise resignation of fellow Socialist Fatos Nano, began talks Wednesday with representatives of other political parties.

Majko, 30, told AFP: "I have begun consultations which will continue throughout the day."

"The composition of the new government will be announced as soon as possible, today or tomorrow (Thursday) or later."

Majko said Tuesday marked "the end of the political crisis" in Albania.

But his optimism was not shared by the opposition Democratic Party (DP) led by the country's former President Sali Berisha, which called for a demonstration in the central Skenderbeg square at 6:00 p.m. (1600 GMT) Wednesday, according to a statement in the Rilindja demokratike newspaper.

DP public relations secretary Vili Minarolli told AFP that his party was going to "continue demonstrations until a final solution was

found to the political crisis in Albania."

"For the democrats, nothing has changed except the names. The only solution is an interim government formed from a meeting of all parties chaired by Meidani, which would approve a new constitution and prepare new elections," Minarolli added.

Berisha said Tuesday his party did not want to be part of the new government but would support the measures taken by the government "to restore public order, confiscate firearms from the public and (reinforce) national security."

Nano's resignation followed his failure to form a new coalition government capable of ending a showdown marked by bloody street protests, which flared up after the assassination on Sept. 12 of DP deputy leader Azem Hajdari. The clashes between security forces and DP supporters left four dead and 80 wounded.

Majko said his new government would be made up of members of the ruling coalition but it would remain "open to independent intellectuals or representatives of other parties."

Besides Majko's Socialist Party (SP), the ruling coalition includes the Democratic Alliance, the Social Democratic Party,

the Human Rights Party and the Agricultural Party.

The new government's priority would be the approval of a new constitution, which is "essential to allow Albania to become a democratic country," said Majko.

He said another aim would be to bring the country "out of the urgent state it is in and restore public order."

The prime minister-designate said he was prepared to begin "a constructive dialogue with the opposition" and announced "big changes" in the ministries of the interior, finance, justice and the civil service.

Albanian chief of police Hasan Ahmetaj said Wednesday his officers remained on a state of alert "in order to prevent any trouble."

The country's police was placed on maximum alert on Sept. 14, when the riots in Tirana reached their highpoint, Ahmetaj told AFP.

"The police is still on the highest level of alert. It is being supported by rapid intervention forces (a special unit) and by the military police which has been under the control of the ministry of the interior for the last few days," he said.

The situation in the country was "relatively calm" Wednesday.



Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams arrives at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool for the Labour Conference where he is to talk with British Prime Minister Tony Blair (AFP photo)

## Adams hopeful N. Irish arms row can be solved

BLACKPOOL, England (R) — Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams Wednesday signalled he was optimistic a row over stockpiles of guerrilla arms that has cast a shadow over the Northern Ireland peace process could soon be resolved.

After a 50-minute meeting with British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who is in Blackpool at his Labour Party's annual conference, Adams played down talk that the peace process was in crisis and said there was time to resolve the problem.

"Clearly we have the space to sort this out if the political will is there and Sinn Féin has that will," he told reporters after the meeting.

The row erupted after Northern Ireland's First Minister, Protestant David Trimble, said he wanted to see the IRA, which fought for years to end British rule in the province, start handing over its weapons before Adams takes his seat on the ruling executive in the new devolved Northern Ireland Assembly.

He noted that some guerrillas have already been released from prison and some British troops have departed from the province even though the IRA has not handed over any arms.

But Sinn Féin, the political wing of the IRA, has said the peace agreement gives it two years to complete the decommissioning.

While there is no deadline for appointing 10 ministers to head new government departments, the Good Friday agreement states a new cross-border body with the southern Irish Republic should meet by October 31.

In the row, Trimble has also found himself at odds with deputy First Minister Seamus Mallon, deputy leader of the moderate republican SDLP party, who backed Adams' position.

Trimble, who is leader of the pro-British Ulster Unionist Party, and Mallon will hold separate talks with Blair later Wednesday. Tuesday Trimble also sounded a note of optimism that a resolution might be in sight.

"I hope and believe it is possible for us to overcome this problem and I remain fundamentally optimistic about the peace process," he told a fringe meeting.

While Blair may help ease the stalemate at his meetings Wednesday, an agreement is unlikely before a face-to-face meeting between Trimble and Adams later this week.

Blair's official spokesman said the Prime Minister remained confident the political will was there among the key players to resolve the issue, but said a solution was unlikely Wednesday.

Before the meeting, Blair said he would deliver a firm reminder to Adams that handing over weapons was also part of the political settlement.

"I will be saying what I've always said that the agreement is the agreement, all of it's got to be implemented, not simply any part of it — decommissioning is part of the agreement," Blair told BBC Television.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Three Indian soldiers killed on Kashmir border

SRINAGAR, India (AFP) — Three Indian soldiers were killed in clashes with Pakistani troops at two border outposts in the disputed Himalayan state of Kashmir, defence sources said here Wednesday. Sources said two army personnel were killed when they were hit by artillery shells fired by Pakistani troops in Kargil, some 200 kilometres from here. "It was once again indiscriminate and unprovoked shelling by Pakistani troops," an official said. Another Indian army soldier died in another attack, 100 kilometres north of Srinagar. Civilians have dug underground bunkers to escape shelling, while the majority of the residents have migrated from Kargil and its adjoining villages in the wake of continued skirmishes, sources said. The Indian army retaliated, they said, adding they had no information of casualties on the Pakistani side. Indian and Pakistani troops routinely clash on the Kashmir border, and some 125 people died in eight days of artillery duels earlier this month. Kashmir, a Muslim-majority state, is claimed by both countries and has plagued relations since their 1947 independence, sparking two wars. New Delhi accuses Islamabad of arming and training Muslim guerrillas fighting to secede from India. Pakistan denies the charge.

### Earthquake rattles Belgrade

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — An earthquake measuring 5.7 on the Richter scale shook Belgrade and other parts of the Balkans early Wednesday, shutting off electricity temporarily, rattling buildings and sending frightened residents into the streets. There were no reports of significant damage during the quake, which struck about 12:15 a.m. (2215 Tuesday GMT). But the independent B-92 Radio said one man died of a heart attack during the quake near the town of Valjevo. At least 17 people were injured, many of them tumbling down darkened staircases as they fled into the streets. Officials said the quake was centred near Cacak about 85 kilometres south of Belgrade. In central Serbia, authorities warned people to avoid drinking tap water because the sewerage system may have been damaged. Schools were closed in the area Wednesday. Callers to Belgrade radio stations asked whether NATO had attacked. The Alliance has threatened possible military action unless the government halts its crackdown of ethnic Albanian separatists in the southern province of Kosovo. In neighbouring Bosnia-Herzegovina, people fled into the streets of the capital Sarajevo, despite a heavy downpour. The quake was also felt in parts of Croatia.

### Cause of oil spill off San Francisco Bay still a mystery

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — An 8,740-litre oil spill that threatens to destroy one of the largest breeding sites for marine life outside Alaska has already killed at least nine birds. About 760 litres of the oil slick had been sucked up Tuesday at the site 16 kilometres off San Francisco, said Dana Michaels, a spokeswoman for the California Department of Fish and Game. The Coast Guard was expected to resume the "cleanup" effort Wednesday morning to protect the Farallon Islands, a nearby collection of barren rocks that are home to thousands of birds and sea lions. Investigators were comparing samples of the thick, heavy oil sent to a federal pollution lab with samples from ships that had recently travelled through the same waters. The spill, first reported Monday night, occurred at the end of the breeding season, when hundreds of thousands of birds gather in large flocks to teach newborns how to feed themselves. By Tuesday the slick had broken up into baseball-sized tar balls and patches as large as 2.4 metres clustered over 1.6 metres, Michaels said. Coming off that was a sheer about 16 kilometres long. Coast Guard and other environmental officials Tuesday night were watching San Mateo County, just south of the city, to see whether the slick would reach shore, Michaels said. No one has taken responsibility for the spill, which was first reported by a vessel that moved through the area Monday. Low visibility hampered helicopters trying to get an overview of the situation. Governor Pete Wilson signed legislation Tuesday prohibiting large transport ships from entering state waters unless the owner or operator has an approved oil spill contingency plan.

### Impressionist paintings recovered, curator central suspect

NICE, France (AP) — Police have recovered two valuable Impressionist paintings stolen 10 days ago in what appears to have been a staged heist and arrested the museum curator for alleged armed robbery, police sources said Wednesday. Two other people, described as small-time thugs, also were arrested in connection with the Sept. 21 theft of a Monet and a Sisley at the Fine Arts Museum of Nice, according to the sources in the judicial police. They spoke on customary condition of anonymity. The art works, Claude Monet's 1897 painting "The Cliffs of Dieppe" and Alfred Sisley's 1890 work "The Alley of the Poplars," were found on a sail boat anchored in the small Riviera port of Saint Laurent du Var, police said. The police sources said that curator Jean Forneris is suspected of having ordered the theft. The paintings were stolen by two masked men who took Forneris from his home, drove him to the museum, then bound and gagged him, the caretaker and another employee and shut them in the museum library. The museum alarm had been turned off, allegedly because the caretaker was on duty. The two men sped off in the curator's car with the paintings. Forneris later expressed his "shock" at the thefts.

### No hunt necessary for hungry alligator

VICTORIA, Texas (AP) — Animal control officers didn't have to go out to respond to calls of a wayward alligator — the gator came to them. When workers arrived at the Victoria County Animal Control Centre Tuesday, they found a hungry 2-metre alligator waiting outside. The reptile was apparently eyeing the cats and dogs in the shelter. "It's kind of like being in McDonald's drive-through, but you can't have the Big Mac," said shelter manager Roberta Fisher Tuesday. The gator fought animal control officers, but they finally managed to subdue it. The alligator was turned over to a game warden for relocation to a more appropriate hunting ground.

## MSF forced to withdraw from North Korea

HONG KONG (AFP) — International relief agency Medecins sans Frontières (MSF) announced Wednesday it had been forced out of North Korea by the Stalinist government which was diverting aid.

The French-based group urged donor governments and other agencies to review aid to North Korea and demand greater accountability from the government.

MSF director general Eric Goemaere said that since early June there had been a clear, high-level policy change to restrict humanitarian aid in the famine-stricken country.

MSF, which had been supporting 1,400 health centres and hospitals, was told North Korea was able to return to self-sufficiency and instead of medicine wanted raw materials supplied by its state pharmaceutical factories.

"In an unexpected move when we had to renegotiate the memorandum of understanding they told us to pull our teams out of the provinces, to stop the distribution of drugs and to continue with a program at the central level," Goemaere said.

"They told us the emergency was over and they want to go back to structural aid," he added.

"Now we are requesting multilateral donor countries to change their aid policy to increase the pressure on the government and to make sure in the future agencies like ours will be able to return to the field," he said.

North Korea, its economy shrinking for almost a decade,

has struggled to feed its people since 1995, when severe flooding devastated the harvest.

Hospitals are now about 75 per cent reliant on Korean herbal medicines, the agency said.

Some reports have spoken of up to three million dead from famine, but Goemaere said this was difficult to confirm as international monitors had consistently been denied access to the provinces.

"In the provinces in which MSF was working we did not see people dying in the streets... certainly nothing like famine in the Sudan," said Rose Marie Pecchio, former MSF head of mission to North Korea.

"I think there is famine in the country but we do not know. We think there are pockets," she said.

Refugees who fled across the border into China told the agency that food distribution had dried up at the beginning of 1994.

"When international aid arrives in North Korea, the cargo is loaded on trucks and sent to army warehouses," one couple with a young child told MSF.

A U.S. Congress delegation report last month estimated the food crisis was claiming between 300,000 to 800,000 lives a year.

MSF said it was convinced food and medical aid was being distributed along political lines, with party faithful receiving food as others starved.

MSF also expressed deep concern about orphans and

homeless children wandering the countryside. It said it was convinced children were being rounded up and put into institutions to which the aid group was refused access.

The agency came across extremely malnourished children in some 64 feeding centres around the country. "We think they are the peak of an iceberg," Goemaere said.

"A huge population of homeless children, a vagabond population who do not benefit from aid, they were for us a definite priority."

"But when we said that, the authorities told us they are not a priority," he added.

Refugees in China told of children in public places with grotesquely swollen heads.

"Their legs are also swollen and straight like pillars from the tops of their thighs to their ankles. Their skin is black and they have skin infections all over their bodies," one witness said.

Goemaere said MSF's withdrawal could throw the country back "almost into human experimentation," meaning doctors do not have drugs to treat serious diseases and if they do have the supplies, they do not know how to use them.

He described horrific conditions in provincial hospitals, where doctors were performing operations without anaesthetic, sterilisation or antibiotics.

The last of the 14-strong MSF team will leave North Korea Thursday after 16 months.

## Scientists isolate immune system on/off switch

LONDON (R) — Scientists have isolated a gene which they believe acts as an on/off switch for the body's immune system, promising new ways of treating conditions ranging from cancer to Crohn's Disease, the British company behind the breakthrough said Tuesday.

Researchers at the U.S. arm of Chiroscience Group Plc are also close to locating a second gene which could reverse bone wasting caused by osteoporosis, a condition which affects millions of people over 60 and leads to more than one million fractures in the U.S. every year.

Research and Development Director Robert Jackson said uncovering the gene which regulates the body's immune response could one day lead to development of a whole new range of drugs.

"Sometimes you want to turn it off and sometimes you want to turn it on," Jackson told Reuters. Turning the immune

system on or up could help in conditions like AIDS and cancer, where the body's efforts to fight off tumours are currently too weak.

"If we could strengthen that, we could develop drugs to help the body react to tumours," Jackson said.

But switching it off or down might be useful in a range of diseases caused by an overly fierce immune response — such as rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes, psoriasis, Crohn's Disease, ulcerative colitis and allergy.

Gene-based research at the former Darwin Molecular business in Seattle, Washington, which Chiroscience bought in 1996, is also close to locating a mutant gene which may offer a way of reversing the effects of osteoporosis for the first time.

Scientists are studying around 100 people and their families in South Africa with extremely strong bones caused by a mutant gene which causes bone density to increase

as people age — the exact opposite of osteoporosis. "We are close to identifying a unique bone structure gene for osteoporosis," Chief Executive Officer John Padfield told Reuters.

"All other treatments try to stop bone loss getting worse."

What our gene appears to do is increase bone density very substantially — if this turns out to be true when we test a drug, that would be a revolutionary treatment for osteoporosis."

The company announced the discoveries as part of a day-long update on its research and development activities. Shares in Chiroscience were up 7 per cent or 17 1/2 per cent in early afternoon trading in London.

Chiroscience said it will also work with the small British genome company Gemini Research, which has built up a database of genetic information based on identical twins. The two companies are to look for mutant genes linked to obesity.

## Chrysler sues ISP's over Web address

DETROIT (UPI) — Chrysler Corp. is accusing two Internet service providers of cyberpiracy, claiming they use a slight variation of its Dodge Web address to route net users to pornography.

New York-based Host Networks Inc. and The Net Inc. are defendants in a lawsuit Chrysler filed late Monday in U.S. District Court in Detroit.

The automaker says today it's seeking unspecified damages and a court injunction to shut down www.foradodge.com, a Web site operated by The Net that provides a link to a porn site. The site address is similar to

Chrysler's 3-year-old marketing Web site www.4adodge.com.

The lawsuit says Host Networks provides Internet users with access to The Net's site.

The Net and Host Networks have 30 days to reply to the suit. Neither company is commenting on Chrysler's charges.

Chrysler attorney Ron Fuller says the suit was filed because "a customer searching for information on a Dodge should not be faced with pornography."

Chrysler claims The Net registered the domain name foradodge.com in December

1996. Since then the automaker has tried to shut it down.

In July, Chrysler says, Host Networks offered to sell foradodge.com to the automaker "for a substantial fee," Chrysler declined.

Chrysler's complaint also claims The Net has "surreptitiously obtained and registered other trademarks including www.cnn.org, www.msnbc.org, www.themicrocrosnetwork.com, www.nasa.net and www.whitehouse.com."

Earlier this year, Chrysler successfully battled another porn site that used a corporate trademark, knocking it off the Web.







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## Better safe than sorry

**THE HOSPITALISATION** of more than 200 students who fell ill after receiving vaccinations is a cause for alarm even though such incidents occur in the best of developed nations.

While we hail the government and its various branches for their prompt action, the set-up of an investigation committee and the openness in which the various departments dealt with the scare, we cannot but fear that negligence, as demonstrated by the water crisis, seems to be widespread.

True that only around 200 students were affected out of 16,000 others who also were inoculated. Still, even the smallest number of Jordanian children falling ill because of one medical reason or another is enough to generate concern. That the Ministry of Health insists the vaccines in question were tested and found suitable, makes one wonder whether there are enough safeguards in place to protect the lives of Jordanians at all levels and on all fronts.

If improper refrigeration of the vaccines is ruled out and the standards of the World Health Organisation have been met, then by sheer deduction, there must be an element of human negligence somewhere along the line that may explain the incident.

In 1994, the minister of health then, Abdul Rahim Malhas, charged that our food and medicine were either polluted or outdated. His allegations were summarily dismissed.

But apprehension has always prevailed among us. We know, for example that outdated medicines and rotten food might not strike one ill instantly. But they might affect one's health in the long-term. In today's sophisticated and globalised world, people depend on their governments to scrutinise what they drink and eat, and especially the pills they take, to make sure that they will not have short-term or long-term effect on their health.

We hope this government will bring peace of mind to the people, now and for good.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i's Fahed Faneh discussed contradictions between the health ministry officials' statements and what has been published in the newspapers regarding the recent water crisis that lasted for several months. Faneh holds the minister of health responsible for the portability of the water. The minister announced that water coming from the Zai Water Plant was clean and drinkable, but some press articles cast doubt on this claim, the writer said. Do we believe what officials said or what journalists wrote? Both minister of health and journalists should resort to laboratories and wait for specialists' results. Faneh said journalists should not be used for opinions they have published in their articles, even if they were false, but that excludes information lacking medical evidence. Faneh suggested the prosecutor, still investigating the water crisis, send for those journalists who published articles about water contamination, and ask them to provide him with information and documents that might be more helpful and important than those of the Ministry of Health, the Royal Scientific Society and local and foreign specialists.

Al Ra'i's Mahmoud Rimawi said that clashes between the Arabs of Um Fahem and Israel reveal the racist nature of Israel when dealing with Arabs. But these clashes also reveal the Arabs' increasing national awareness among parties, local communities and even parliament. Israeli policy demands that this "civilised state" expropriates land from its Arab owners, because when it comes to Arabs, Israel claims that their lands are expropriated for organisational purposes, such as road constructions, military areas and so on. Israel, since 1948, has proved that it is impossible to live in peaceful coexistence among the traditional "elite Zionists" especially those who influence the current Israeli government, driving the region into a vicious circle of armed confrontation.

## View from Academia

## Parents' role in a child's education

Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

NOT ONLY teachers and school officials, but also researchers in the field and educators call on parents to take an active part in the education of their children, especially in the early years of schooling. No matter what the reason (excuse?) is, parents cannot afford not to get involved. You cannot, for instance, say you are too busy as a parent (barely making ends meet, pursuing your demanding career full-time, etc.) to devote time to your children's education.

The saying, (and this is still repeated by many parents, in the less as well as the more privileged areas in our society) that teachers are paid to shoulder the responsibility of the education of children on behalf of the parents is no longer acceptable. Whether you like it or not (and you better like it), you as a parent have to be not just involved but actively involved. Scholars in the field speak, in fact, of both a fundamental role for parents and a partnership. All of this is fine. But it is easier said than done. How do parents get actively involved, and how do they become full partners? There is, in the minds of parents at least, a substantial degree of scepticism and a substantial degree of ambiguity about the very concept of being actively involved and being a partner.

When we talk about the role of parents, it seems to me, we are talking about three dimensions at least. The first has to do with parents keeping in touch with teachers and school officials on a regular or frequent basis, through the general meetings that teachers and school officials hold with parents and through meetings with teachers and school officials on an individual basis. In the early, as well as later, years of schooling, it is to the benefit of the child/student for parents and teachers to consult. It is difficult for teachers in a short period of time to get to know all students, and know them well; the parents can offer valuable information or feedback to teachers, and vice versa. Under this umbrella also, parents are expected to devote time to get involved (morally at least) in school activities in which their children take part (sports, plays, musical performances, knowledge contests, etc.).

Such dimension of parental participation or involve-

ment is, in my opinion, the least problematic. What do you mean? Well, I know that some parents (especially in the case of public schools) never bother to talk to teachers or attend any school meetings or activities. But many either do or can be persuaded to get involved. This dimension is ultimately not problematic, however, because it is easier for parents to grasp and easier to perform.

The second role for parents is their own educational responsibility at home. Children need a lot of attention: drilling, training, explaining, and role modelling. The responsibility of upbringing falls on the shoulders of the parents almost entirely. It is they who are expected to help children develop in a healthy way, to be successful, and to contribute to their own lives and to the lives of those around them constructively. It is they who help them (supposedly) develop healthy eating habits, cross the street properly, deal with others fairly, respect the environment, abide by laws, etc. This also is a role which parents (though they may not live up to the challenges involved) find easier to grasp and perform.

The more difficult and problematic role, and the least plausible and clear to parents, is — believe it or not — how to help their children with their school work. For one thing, most parents find it unpleasant to sit down and go over the school material with their children. They either do not have the patience to do so, or do not share the belief in the very idea. Until now many parents feel school work is the responsibility of the teacher and the school officials. A frustrated parent friend of mine said the other day: "I send my children to an expensive school with the expectation that they will at least take care of schooling. If I do not sit down and go over every tiny detail with my children they do not learn? What am I paying the school for? My children seem to learn nothing from their teachers."

Other parents tell the tale that in the more privileged countries of the globe, students do all school work at school. When they come home, they do not bring any textbooks with them. By contrast (these parents say) most school work in our part of the world is done at home.

Children come home with a huge bag full of textbooks and endless homework assignments.

More importantly, however, most parents (including the few who actually enjoy supervising their children's homework) suffer from an ambiguity about the exact role they are supposed to play. Do they actually teach their children? Do they supervise from afar? Do they go over the specific details? What if you ask your child to solve a math problem and they can't? What do you do? What if they cannot memorise the poem or the verse from the Koran assigned by the teacher for the following day?

Parents are in a dilemma when it comes to this dimension of their role. Not only do they not know what to do, but most have not been trained to supervise or help. This level of parental involvement may be not only pointless but harmful. Children can get abused by impatient, bewildered parents — psychologically or even physically. And parents may also endow their children with bad study habits and bad approaches to learning. Many parents (if not most) expect their children to memorise the material rather than to understand it.

The immediate answer to the question of what concerned parents should do is to have them talk to teachers or school officials. Teachers know more than parents (or are supposed to) about how to help students with their studies, and they can give parents valuable tips and advice.

This, however, does not solve the problem entirely. The more effective thing to do — if we expect parents to be partners and if we expect them to help their children (whatever that means) with school work — is to make some literature on the subject available to them and to offer them some training (through conferences, meetings, workshops, etc.).

Before we expect parents to live up to their role as partners and active participants, we need to endow them with the necessary awareness, know-how and skills. The individual schools can play an important role in this respect — not just the Ministry of Education.

## Jerusalem life

## Freedom to travel

"HELLO, THIS is Mr. Olmert," was the voice on the other end of the telephone. The Israeli mayor of Jerusalem was calling my colleague Ayman Bardawil to inquire about the difficulty he was having getting a pass to the airport. Ayman, the director of Al Quds Educational Television was invited to a conference in Barcelona that dealt with Euro-Mediterranean cultural cooperation. Allisa, the wife of the right wing Israeli mayor, who was invited to the same conference, had been approached to intervene on Ayman's case to ensure his safe passage to the conference.

Ayman, an architect by education and now an animator and a television administrator, was rather surprised by the call from the high profile politician. A day earlier he had gone to the Israeli liaison office outside Ramallah with his airplane ticket, his regular pass to enter Israel and conference invitation in order to get the additional permit to allow him to pass through the airport passport control. This was not his first time to travel. But this time the Israelis refused to grant the airport pass saying that by the time he is scheduled to be in the airport the hermetic closure order will be in effect.

An Israeli official whom Ayman had called earlier could not help saying that the decision was made by the security people and he could not help. In other words, his entry to an Israeli

airport at such a time would be a grave danger to the security of the state of Israel and therefore the routine airport pass was denied. Pointing to the fact that he had reserved a seat and bought the ticket, the Israeli security person said he was helpless.

The Israeli mayor who had received a call from his embarrassed wife in Barcelona was quickly able to make mountains move. Shortly after the courtesy call from Ehud Olmert another official called Ayman to get his details. Moments later another Israeli voice was on the phone politely assuring Ayman that his permit would soon be ready. Sure enough twenty minutes after the intervention of the Israeli official, his travel was no longer a security threat, the computers were suddenly working, vacationed staff suddenly reappeared and were able to type and approve the needed permit. After receiving his permit, and as he was packing his bags, Ayman received one more call from Ehud Olmert. "Is everything OK, do you need help getting to the airport," he was asked. A taxi from Jerusalem was waiting and Ayman didn't need any more Israeli help. "Be sure to give my regards to Allisa," the Israeli mayor told his new found Palestinian friend.

In Barcelona, the conference was upbeat. An Israeli television producer talked about dialogue. Addressing the Palestinians on the panel she called for cooperation and exchange

of visits. Ayman couldn't control himself. He had been feeling guilty about having this privilege to travel while the rest of the Palestinians were under lock and key in a big prison. He asked to speak and chided the Israeli speaker for being so oblivious to the situation in Palestine. He explained how he was able to come to the conference. "How many Palestinians can count on the wife of an Israeli official to obtain their freedom to travel," he asked. "Right now more than two million Palestinians are unable to travel from the West Bank to Gaza, can't use the airport and entry to Jerusalem or Israel is strictly forbidden. If you are sincere about your call for dialogue, your effort should be focused on ensuring the freedom of movement for all Palestinians," he told the Israeli panelist.

As Yasser Arafat, Benjamin Netanyahu and Bill Clinton continued to talk about the stalled peace process, the day-to-day problems of Palestinians seemed as far from the discussion as Washington is from the region.

Whenever Ayman is invited to a conference that requires travel, he gets agitated expecting problems, and I am always encouraging him to travel knowing how badly he needs some fresh air. After telling me his story he asked me a simple question: When will I be able to travel without permits, passes or the intervention of high powered politicians.

## Daoud Kuttab

## America's image problem

To the editor:

I WONDER what the definition for the word "democracy" is in the American constitution? How can the United States claim it advances human rights? Crucial questions remain, I think, unanswered over the publication of U.S. President Bill Clinton's intimate

affairs with Monica. What kind of democracy depicts its president as morally degenerate, an adolescent chasing pretty women and as someone willing to strip off his clothes in front of anyone. If democracy in the United States means penetrating a man's privacy, then all American people in this context should be punished too, since, as we all know, there are no strict rules prohibiting sexual relations in any state in the U.S. I firmly believe that Bill Clinton's ordeal is not only an imperfection in the U.S. system, but also an example showing that the American juridical system lacks impartiality. The majority of the American people have become aware that the whole story is fabricated and overstated; they actually sympathise with their president whose prestige and reputation have been badly damaged. For my own part, I believe that those who stand behind this crisis have severely marred the image of America.

Mazen Al Tamimi,  
 Amman

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any issue they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld upon request but only under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing and abridging.

## Developing world

## 'We cannot do this alone'

IN A WORLD of mounting economic crisis, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region in general has less of a reason than most other areas to fear a great crash, if only because our economies largely have nowhere to go but up. In order to crash, you have to first be moving at high speed, something which most of MENA (including Jordan) is not doing. In the shadow of this continuation of sluggish growth and retarded development in the MENA region, the Mediterranean Development Forum (MDF) met in Marrakesh in the first week of September, during a nasty bout of global instability in financial markets and deep-seated worries about a spreading crisis in emerging economies. Led by World Bank President James Wolfensohn, a host of the good and the great from the international development community came together in Marrakesh for the second MDF with senior representatives from MENA governments and private organisations.

The event, devoted to disseminating knowledge, building skills, and fostering networks within the development community in the MENA region, is organised through a partnership of regional think tanks, advocacy groups, and related organisations — including the recently established Jordan Economic Development Association (JEDA) — and the Economic Development Institute (EDI) of

the World Bank. This year's event was attended by over 600 senior government officials, influential members of the private sector, and representatives of civil society. Characterised by EDI's Ishac Diwan as "a Davos for the South," MDF is a chance for some of the region's most influential thinkers and practitioners of development policies to discuss the impact of the recent global instability and to make plans for the future. Just as the Davos meetings which the World Economic Forum has held annually over the past few decades aim to bring together key economic and business players from around the world, the idea is for MDF to do the same for the region.

"Developing human capacities" was high on the Marrakesh agenda, and JEDA played a role in developing this theme through hosting the preparatory MDF meeting on the topic in Amman in July. Then, and again in Marrakesh, it was noted that in the last decade, internal and external economic shocks have significantly constrained national budgets and limited the capacity of MENA states to satisfy rapidly expanding demand for social services. A proposed solution to this problem is seen as more effective participation of the private and NGO sectors in such things as health and education.

In fact "participation" in general was the theme of this

year's MDF, with the noun and its adjective "participatory" cropping up everywhere. For example, one definition of good governance, another key issue of the Marrakesh meeting, included efficiency, accountability, decentralisation, and participation. It was noted that development is not an isolated economic phenomenon, but an integral part of a general transformation of society in which trust, cooperation, participation, and stability are built at all levels, including those of government. Cynics may argue that this will never describe the Jordanian system; my answer to them is that if we don't push for these goals, the alternative may be increasing disaffection which, with a few more years of falling GNP per capita, will push Jordan to the brink.

Most of those who were in Marrakesh are aware of the long-term nature of this process. In their summary and recommendations at the close of the event, the MDF partners pledged to continue contributing to this "ambitious agenda." Happily, the Jordanians who attended MDF were overwhelmingly committed to these ambitions, and it will be partly up to JEDA to help make this agenda a growing reality at home. Such top-notch organisations as the Lebanese Centre for Policy Studies, l'Association Maroc 2020, and the Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation.

among others from the MENA region, are already leading the way in their own countries. However, in the words of Wolfensohn in his opening speech to the MDF "we have concluded in our institution that we cannot do this alone. We need a four-way partnership with international institutions, business and the private sector, civil society, and elected governments." The phrase "we cannot do this alone" rang in people's ears over the next few days, as practical suggestions started to be made for closer and more practical Bank involvement in MENA development and for greater participation by people and institutions in the region in the process of pushing for positive change.

By coincidence, all this happened a few days after our new government was appointed. The bad news was that several people from Amman who had intended to be participants in MDF became cabinet ministers or assumed other key posts and had to miss Marrakesh because of the pressure of their new jobs; the good news was that most of the ideas of these men are on the same wavelength as that of MDF. Once they also realise that they too "cannot do this alone," Jordan may be on the path towards participatory, sustainable development.

The writer is president of the Jordan Economic Development Association.

## Riad Al Khouri

Featu  
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to the editor:

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Features

Let's get acquainted



HRH Princess Basma chats with children at the Khalidieh Society for the Physically Handicapped which she visited on Tuesday in Mafrak governorate. The Princess was in Mafrak to open the Khalidieh branch of the Jordan Women's Union and to present the Khalidieh Society with 22 wheelchairs to the physically challenged.

obtained his masters there in 1984 after 30 years in private sector business. The books, which Abu Jaber's wife Mireille was only to happy to part with, only to find herself saddled with another several hundred looking for shelf space, include 373 in Arabic and 165 in English. They cover subjects ranging from Islamic and European history, to economics, art, sports and geography. The library has registered the books into its classification system and has made them available to students, just as Abu Jaber intended. His generosity towards his alma mater rings every day on the campus of the university. It was Abu Jaber who donated the clock tower located near the library and presidency buildings.



Here they are, the talent of the future. Young participants to the Arab Children's Song Festival take time out from their performances for a photo opportunity shot outside the Royal Cultural Centre.

Royal Highnesses Princess Faisal Ben Hussein and Princess Alia Faisal on Monday and will run through Oct. 23 at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts in Jebel Weibdeh. Also in October, the Instituto Cervantes has a host of activities lined up including an important exhibition of Goya's Caprichos (engravings in aquatint) which is being held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor. This exhibition begins Oct. 13.

— Jennifer Hamarnah

THE TWO new ambassadors to Jordan everyone is talking about are Their Excellencies William Burns of the U.S. and Bernard Eimé of France. The reason is much less an issue of the social functions they hosted last week than that both gentlemen look quite kindly on Jordan and the Arab World in general. Burns and his wife Lisa Cary hosted a "let's get acquainted" reception Monday at the embassy compound. There you could see about 150 guests from a multitude of sectors, those currently "in the loop" as well as those "currently" out. On the guest list were members of the current government and the previous government. From the new one were noted Minister of Transport Nasser Lawzi and Minister of Information Nasser Judeh. From the old, our agents spotted former minister of water Munther Hadadin and his wife Lexi, former minister of transport and communications Sami Gammoh. The outdoor reception went off without a hitch, except for the thin-skinned who found the evening air a tad to chilly.

Elmé opted for a more intimate gathering at his residence with the chief editors of Jordan's major dailies. Over a four-course lunch the ambassador came to place faces with names such as Al Rai'i Chairman Abdul Salam Tarawneh, Al Dustour Chief Editor Nabil Sharif, Arab Al Yawm Chairman Taher Adwan and Chief Editor Riyad Hroub, Jordan Radio and Television Corporation Director General Ibrahim Shuhadeh, and Jordan Press Association President Seif Sharif. The press certainly came away impressed.

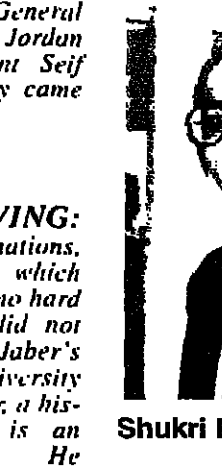
In Fuhais local community was happy to receive a donation from Dr. Shukry W. David of Detroit, Michigan. The gift was a fully equipped ambulance presented in the name of the new Fuhais Orthodox Club.

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES: In Amman to bless several momentous events is Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem Turkom Manougian, who is responsible for the Armenian Church in Jordan. The patriarch arrived in Amman on Tuesday, to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the church in Jordan, the opening of a new hall next to the church, the 35th anniversary of the ordination of Archbishop Vahan Topalian, his 20th anniversary as bishop of the Armenian community in Jordan, and 10 years of his being promoted to archbishop. His Beatitude offered mass yesterday and was guest of honour at a reception Wednesday night at the Radisson SAS Hotel. Tonight there will be a banquet for the Armenian community also at the Radisson. The Armenian community in Jordan today numbers around 4,000 people. They maintain their own Armenian Community Elementary School in Ashrafieh and two clubs, Homenmen and Al Wutani, in addition to the Armenian Relief Society.

KNOTS TIED: Wedding ululations sounded loud for Sura Omar Madani and Monaz Ahmad Hussein, brother of our crime reporter Rana Hussein. Sura is an architectural engineer, and Monaz lives and works in Greensboro, North Carolina. The couple were wed on Saturday, fete at the Philadelphia Hotel and left for their honeymoon in Florida. They will settle in Greensboro. Back from a three-week honeymoon to Paris, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Acapulco are newlyweds Nadia Ghaib Mukhlis and Nabil Salim Hudhud. Nadia is a freelance writer with the J.T. and Nabil is in construction materials sales. Their wedding celebration took place on Sept. 3 at the Inter-Continental Hotel.



Nadia and Nabil Hudhud



Shukri David

PLEASURE IN GIVING: This was also a week of donations, except perhaps for UNRWA which received some promises but no hard cash. Among those we did not report was Dr. Raouf Abu Jaber's gift of 538 books to the University of Jordan library. Abu Jaber, a historian and businessman, is an alumni of the university. He

Science and technology

Cyber millionaires create new mould of philanthropy

By Karen Lowe  
Agence France Presse

Newly rich cyber tycoons, ensconced in posh homes and possessing bulging portfolios, are moving to change the face of philanthropy here with a new approach to charitable giving. In this northwest metropolis, here where Microsoft makes its home along with dozens of other high-tech firms, an estimated 59,000 households have a net worth of at least one million dollars. "The critical mass is here," said Paul Brainerd, who founded Social Venture Partners (SVP) after selling Aldus (whose PageMaker system dominated desktop publishing) for \$525 million to Adobe Systems. "And there were people who were clearly thinking about issues, and well more than myself," said Brainerd, 50, adding that SVP has gathered about 100 partners since it began less than a year ago. What makes this wave of philanthropy different is that most did not inherit their wealth, they are in their 30s and 40s and are not waiting until late in life to give. Nor are they writing checks and walking away. Contributions to the philanthropy are limited to \$5,000. And using a venture capitalist model, 70 per cent of the partners contribute time and expertise to tackle vexing community problems. The group has amassed \$300,000, a small sum considering who the backers are. But Brainerd insists it would be hard to calculate the value of networking that these individuals bring to the table. "A good venture capitalist brings to a young company contacts, knowledge of which attorney to use, which accountant, where is a good marketing person," Brainerd said. Partners have targeted for help those students who are at risk for academic failure, particularly in ethnically diverse and low-income neighborhoods that dot this city of sleek, glassy buildings. At Kimball Elementary School, principal Victoria Foreman said SVP has recruited businessmen to mentor students, arranged for bilingual training for parents and created a website to pair students with volunteers. "They are so full of energy. They are so amazing," she said. "They have this group of people who want to make a difference in kids' lives and they keep coming up with new ideas." After media mogul Ted Turner's billion-dollar call to charity with his one billion dollar pledge to the United Nations, Forbes magazine recently noted tech-millionaires were among the most parsimonious of givers. Microsoft chief Bill Gates, one of the richest men in the world, was scored for not being more generous. He gave \$225 million to charity, but that did not quiet complaints especially as his vast home neared completion. But Paul Shoemaker, the SVP executive director who left Microsoft for his current post after earning "more money than I ever deserved," said the newly rich are looking for a meaningful way to give. "I have found organizations that do giving circles. And I have found those that invest their time and expertise," said Shoemaker. "I haven't found many, or any yet, that do both of those things together." The cyber-rich in various parts of the country are at different stages of evolution, said Shoemaker, who has fielded calls from Silicon Valley to Austin, Texas, where a group is looking at the SVP model for helping. "We're only 12 months old," Shoemaker said. "We've proven a certain part of the model. The question is: Where do we go from here?" These cyber philanthropists are also stepping where the government and traditional charitable organizations normally don't go, taking risks on untapped ideas without budget constraints. "Government is no longer able or capable to fund this kind of work," Brainerd said, "particularly if there is any kind of innovation or risk taking involved."

A flight simulator which recreates G-forces

By Mark Prigg

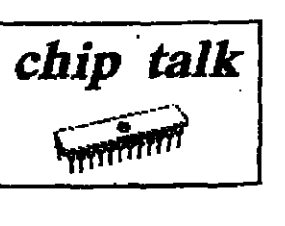
BRITISH FIGHTER pilots are to be trained on the first seat that can simulate the effects of G-force. Developed at the Cranfield College of Aeronautics, the seat foos pilots into thinking they are moving and experiencing G-force. Simulators built around the seat will be far cheaper than present machines that rely on moveable seats to pitch and roll an entire cockpit. Cranfield Aerospace, which is handling the commercial development of the product, has already received orders from the Ministry of Defence to use the seat to train Hawk fighter pilots. The effects of G-force are mimicked in a number of ways. The pilot's harness can be tensioned or slackened, and the seat has a backpack that can harden or soften. The backpack also moves from side to side to simulate turbulence and the effect of gunshots striking the plane. Simple motors also move the seat slightly to alter the pilot's viewpoint, adding to the impression that G-forces are pushing him into his seat. According to David Burgoyne, the head of the team developing the seat, it offers a more realistic experience than a platform simulator. What we are doing is actually recreating the effects of G-force," he says. "For instance, if you pull up hard and get 2-3g positive, your eyelids change, you are pulled into the seat, which also hardens considerably, and the harness softens as if you were being pushed backwards. "If you pull negative G-force, you are squeezed into the seat quite forcefully. It is a lot more realistic than being in a simulator on stilts, where there is a feeling of movement but not of G-force." The seat is controlled by a computer chip programmed with the flight characteristics of a plane. Burgoyne says military pilots who have used the system can tell what plane they are flying just from the motion of the seat. "Just like cars, every plane handles differently," says Burgoyne. "When we give a simulation company one of our seats with their plane characteristics programmed in, it is still only about 95 per cent perfect. The simulation company then uses hours of test-pilot flights to get the system perfect. "Once that has been done, it is almost impossible for pilots to tell they are in a simulator—the handling characteristics are identical. "If they run off an airfield, for instance, they are rattled about. We even simulate the effect of being hit by weapons by jolting the pilot around in exactly the same way as a real plane under attack would move them. We recorded the exact frequencies that resonate through a pilot's seat, so we know the system is practically 100 per cent accurate." Burgoyne says the seat can respond to commands within 20 milliseconds, which is faster than most displays used in simulators. Initially, the system will be aimed at the military for training fighter pilots. The Ministry of Defence is buying three seats and Cranfield has also sold the system to Boeing and for use in training F-16 pilots. An attempt to sell the technology to the Eurofighter project is also under way. The idea for the motion seat was conceived during the Gulf war, when there was a need for cheap, portable simulators. Transporting huge simulators to the war zone was impractical, so many virtual training missions were cancelled. "Our system just plugs into a simulator display, then plugs into a standard power supply. That's all there is to it; we can set up virtually anywhere," says Burgoyne. However, Cranfield believes the biggest market for the seat will be in retraining airline pilots. Cranfield now aims to get the seat approved by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) as an alternative to platform-based simulators. "The key now is getting CAA approval. They offer several levels of approval for simulators, and we think we can achieve them all. There is no reason that a pilot can't complete all of his training using our seat and be ready to fly the plane for real," says Burgoyne. The team hopes to have full CAA approval for the seat within five years. "The cost of buying and, more importantly, maintaining these huge simulators is vast," says Burgoyne. "We can significantly cut that cost and offer a more realistic experience. A platform simulator weighs about 35,000lb, costs between £3m and £10m and needs a lot of maintenance. We can create a full system for £1m that needs little maintenance." The team also hopes eventually to create a cheap version of the system aimed at the arcade games market, and is even considering a simulator for teaching driving. "The good thing about our design is that it is completely modular," says Burgoyne. "Every part of the system uses the same basic parts, so we can pretty much mix and match a seat. What I can see us doing in the future is creating a cut-down version for a much lower cost. "The games market is an obvious target for that, but I also see a big market for affordable, high-quality simulators in the driving market."

— The Sunday Times

Living in the future

By Jean-Claude Elias

THE GAME the IT (Information Technology) industry is playing with computer users is unfair. Before a new product is released on the market, a better one, to be available "soon" is announced. Take Intel's Pentium II CPU for example, the brain of your PC. The fastest model money can buy today is the 450 MHz. But before even there was any price tag on it, Intel had announced the 600 and the 700 MHz chips for next year. The story goes on and on for most computer products. When Epson revealed their new Stylus 740 flagship ink-jet printer in Cairo last week they made sure to mention to the journalists that they had invited there, the writer of this column included, that they had more in store, like "the new super fast color laser printer at an incredibly low new price." As mouth watering as such information may be it still leaves most users in continuous frustration. For how can you be satisfied when you know that whatever you're buying now will be superseded, or at least exceeded, by a product that will be available in a few months, a few weeks time? The double irony is that the information is coming to you from the very vendor who is selling you an already obsolete piece of equipment. At the same time, there is no way to keep waiting for the "better" product to be on the market — you



have to start somewhere, sometime. Another typical example is the modem. Currently the most performing type is the 56Kbps (kilo bytes per second). Well-informed sources, however, are telling us that the Kingdom will be equipped with the digital ISDN telephone system later next year or in the year 2000 latest. ISDN will allow transmission rates that are far superior to any modem we now have, not to mention increased reliability. So even if your spouse has just offered you the latest "US Robotics 56K with voice mail and Internet Telephony" modem for your birthday, you can't but dream of ISDN. For now you're just not happy enough. Similarly, there's no way to acquire the ideal laser disc drive for the time being. The ultimate, fully-compatible DVD (Digital Versatile Disc) drive has only been announced recently. The idea probably is to make sure all owners of CD-ROM or of early DVD drives are miserable enough. But take heart: the universal DVD should be around by mid-1999... until something new is announced. They say that happiness is a state of mind and that it has nothing to do with money or material possessions. They just didn't take into consideration PC users.



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## Daily Beat

A review of news from the Arabic Press

### Qudah: World Bank gave high marks to Jordan's privatisation programme

THE JORDANIAN privatisation programme is considered the best among many countries implementing similar programmes according to the latest evaluation by the World Bank, the president of the Executive Privatisation Unit (EPU) at the Prime Ministry said in a lecture this week.

Adel Qudah, the EPU president, said Jordan has paved the way for the privatisation programmes by laying down basic and legislative structures that took sufficient time in preparation, accuracy and comprehensiveness. He added that "the privatisation's success chances are there and that the political will stands strongly behind the completion of the programme which is progressing steadily and objectively."

Qudah stressed the keenness of preserving the rights of citizens at the institutions where the privatisation programmes will be implemented. He said: "Privatisation carried out at some institutions and companies has created work opportunities and gave way to expansion that would not have taken place if the government had maintained its equity in them."

The EPU chief indicated that privatisation came to Jordan as part of an integrated economic package adopted by the government within the national economic programme. "The privatisation did not come out of a vacuum but after studies and surveys of public sector institutions," he said noting that some of the institutions and companies have monopolies as they fix high prices for their products.

"Also, despite being able to obtain soft loans and support from the government as well as credit guarantees, these institutions and companies were not able to provide adequate services to the citizens," Qudah said. He named as examples, the Jordan Tourism and Spa Company (Hammamat Ma'in), Royal Jordanian the Aqaba Railway Corporation, the Irbid Electricity Authority, the Public Transport Corporation and the Water Authority.

He also referred to former institutions such as Dar Al Sha'ab Printing, Publishing and Distributing Company (Sawt Al Shaab newspaper), the glass factory and the timber plant. "These institutions often resorted to hiding their failure and losses under political, social or national pretences with heavy losses to the treasury and public funds," Qudah pointed out.

Consequently, he added, protection of public funds and the national economic resources require privatising these projects.

As a policy and means, the privatisation has been adopted to achieve a number of objectives, mainly:

- 1) Upgrading the efficiency of the projects and improving the competitive edge of the Jordanian economy.
- 2) Attracting and increasing the local, Arab and foreign private investments.
- 3) Limiting the government to its basic tasks and supporting the general budget through halting all financial aid to losing projects.
- 4) Developing the local capital market.
- 5) Ending the state monopoly.
- 6) Obtaining technology (Al Ra'i).

### India to extend \$25 million credit to Iraq

NEW DELHI (R) — India will extend \$25-million in credit to Iraq for purchase of manufactured goods, including pharmaceuticals, a government official has said.

"The Iraqi oil minister was informed that Indian government has agreed to extend a line of credit to Iraq worth \$25 million," an Indian external affairs ministry official told Reuters after a meeting of the India-Iraq Joint Commission.

The Joint Commission, which met after a gap of 10 years, was chaired by Indian Petroleum Minister K. Ramamurthy and Iraqi Oil Minister Amir Muhammad Rasheed.

"Discussions (of the Commission) will also relate to the extension of a line of credit by India to Iraq to be used for purchase of capital goods, consumer durables and for consultancy services," the government said in a statement issued after the meeting.

ASIAN FINANCIAL MARKET											
HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - JORDANI											
TELEPHONE: 607171 / 607179											
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR WEDNESDAY 30/09/1998											
PAST 12 MONTHS	COMPANY'S NAME	P / E	DIV.	NO. OF	VALUE	OPEN	CLOSE	CHANGE			
HIGH	LOW			TRANS.	TRADED	PRICE	PRICE				
355.500	170.000	ARAB BANK	17.7	92	18	2900	642775	216.00	216.50	0.50	+
1.950	1.580	JOR. INTERNATIONAL BK.	12.7	4.49	9	3928	6153	1.58	1.56	-0.02	-
3.200	1.000	BANK OF JORDAN	2	0.00	1	500	510	1.02	1.02	0.00	-
1.300	870	MID. EAST INV. BK.	59.1	0.00	4	2000	1800	1.50	1.50	0.00	-
2.680	1.550	INDUSTRIAL DEV. BK.	11.1	6.50	5	14025	23423	1.59	1.59	0.00	-
6.510	2.610	THE HOUSING BK.	18.4	3.45	26	48995	141257	2.89	2.90	0.01	+
3.450	1.760	JOR. INVEST. BANK	8	0.00	11	7170	12885	1.77	1.80	0.03	+
870	560	JOR. GULF BANK	9	0.00	2	3000	1700	1.73	1.72	-0.01	-
3.910	1.690	JOR. ISLAMIC BANK	17.6	0.00	10	5100	9156	1.95	1.95	0.00	-
1.560	930	UNION BK. SAV. INV.	21.8	0.00	1	8000	7600	1.42	1.42	0.00	-
3.900	1.350	JOR. INV. & FIN. BANK	9	0.00	7	17572	11773	1.68	1.67	-0.01	-
850	600	PHILADEL. INV. BK.	9	0.00	1	2000	1040	1.52	1.52	0.00	-
BANK SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 284.19 CHNG: -0.19 95 114687 859742											
2.850	1.790	JOR. FRENCH INSUR.	7.4	9.43	3	11200	29680	2.63	2.65	0.02	+
2.100	1.080	HOLY LAND INSUR.	8.2	0.00	1	200	220	1.10	1.10	0.00	-
2.350	1.800	ARAB LIFE INSUR.	9.3	0.00	1	250	485	1.97	1.94	-0.03	-
INSURANCE SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 126.18 CHNG: -0.07 5 11650 30285											
2.240	1.430	JOR. ELECTRIC PWR.	9.7	8.54	17	5237	7597	1.48	1.49	0.01	+
4.010	1.650	TRIST. ELECTRICITY	9.9	6.25	2	200	320	1.68	1.60	-0.08	-
5.200	3.550	ARAB INTL. HOTELS	18.9	3.26	5	1750	7870	4.60	4.60	0.00	-
1.350	710	MATL. PORTFOLIO	28.1	0.00	1	800	576	1.71	1.72	0.01	+
1.120	680	REAL ESTATE INV.	14.1	0.00	1	1000	720	1.72	1.72	0.00	-
590	270	JORDAN INTL. TRAD.	9	0.00	2	500	140	1.29	1.28	-0.01	-
1.480	1.060	MID. EAST HOTELS	9	0.00	2	500	115	1.09	1.09	0.00	-
4.450	1.910	JOR. CHEMICAL IND.	9.4	2.11	9	17250	32834	1.91	1.90	-0.01	-
1.890	880	ARAB EDUCATION	20.8	0.00	1	500	450	1.88	1.88	0.00	-
1.830	1.060	UNIFIED CO.	5.0	9.65	4	1200	1485	1.15	1.14	-0.01	-
810	510	UNION LAND DEV.	9	0.00	1	2000	1040	1.52	1.52	0.00	-
SERVICE SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 106.48 CHNG: +0.26 45 30543 53145											
3.860	1.640	JOR. CEMENT FACT.	11.1	5.85	8	10899	20592	1.88	1.88	0.00	-
4.120	1.440	JOR. PHOSPHATE MINES	15.4	0.00	3	9400	13630	1.44	1.45	0.01	+
6.500	3.850	ARAB POTASH CO.	19.0	5.18	7	36500	134729	3.95	3.95	0.00	-
11.250	10.050	JOR. PETROL. REFINERY	10.3	8.35	7	1839	19513	10.51	10.45	-0.06	-
1.850	1.060	INDUSTRIAL COMM. AG.	67.9	0.00	8	1010	1158	1.14	1.15	0.01	+
5.740	2.400	ARAB TRASH. WMT.	7.3	2.83	15	4528	11994	2.62	2.62	0.00	-
5.590	1.670	JOR. CERAMIC IND.	4.6	6.51	7	12350	66443	5.38	5.38	0.00	-
6.350	4.700	DAR ALDINA DV. INV.	13.3	13.89	6	1950	3501	1.77	1.80	0.03	+
2.980	1.700	ARAB ALUM. IND.	13.2	0.00	12	2950	1151	1.39	1.39	0.00	-
550	390	LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	9	0.00	1	100	41	1.41	1.41	0.00	-
370	270	NATIONAL STEEL IND.	9	0.00	14	23200	6990	1.31	1.30	-0.01	-
580	300	INTERFER. PETRO. CHEM.	9	0.00	1	250	238	1.09	1.09	0.00	-
1.760	780	UNIV. CHEM. IND.	9.6	8.51	1	100	71	1.70	1.71	0.01	+
2.250	1.700	MATL. CABLE MFG. WYAC	23.3	0.00	1	100	71	1.70	1.71	0.01	+
1.730	380	JOR. SOLUBLE CHEM.	7.4	0.00	6	5500	2148	1.41	1.39	-0.02	-
1.470	1.150	ARAB PHARM. CHEM.	13.8	4.80	2	800	5100	1.66	1.65	-0.01	-
1.250	520	UNIV. WOOD. IND.	10.4	9.23	8	7850	1403	1.50	1.51	0.01	+
920	480	JOR. IND. RESOURCES	9	0.00	3	2750	6150	1.24	1.23	-0.01	-
1.580	1.200	MATL. CHLORINE	8.6	8.13	1	5000	10511	1.26	1.28	0.02	+
1.080	600	JOR. CEMENT CO.	8.9	17.53	1	63	1028	1.03	1.02	-0.01	-
1.560	1.150	EL. & W. READY WEAR	45.0	0.00	14	8300	10511	1.26	1.28	0.02	+
1.310	910	INTL. TOBACCO	7.2	5.72	3	1000	1028	1.03	1.02	-0.01	-
890	460	JORDAN STEEL	9.5	8.24	2	900	765	1.85	1.85	0.00	-
710	580	MAT. ALUMINUM	33.7	0.00	9	5700	3864	1.68	1.68	0.00	-
670	530	MID. EAST COMPLEX	9.8	0.00	2	1100	594	1.54	1.54	0.00	-
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 77.59 CHNG: -0.70 144 143419 -315151											
GRAND TOTAL INDEX: 171.25 CHNG: -0.01 289 300299 1258423											
PARALLEL MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR WEDNESDAY 30/09/1998											
1.050	860	EXPORT & FIN. BANK	16.1	0.00	1	2050	1273	1.87	1.87	0.00	-
1.000	700	JOR. INV. INSURANCE CO.	9	0.00	17	165000	122100	1.70	1.74	0.04	+
500	340	JOR. TRADE FAC.	9	0.00	2	6000	2280	1.39	1.38	-0.01	-
800	500	UNION INV.	9	0.00	3	8000	4240	1.51	1.51	0.00	-
260	050	JOR. IND. MATCH- JENCO	9	0.00	3	3000	395	1.14	1.14	0.00	-
600	270	ARAB FOOD & MED.	9	0.00	7	5550	1776	1.31	1.32	0.01	+
580	260	MATL. MULT. ENG. HAMICO	9	0.00	23	33700	9099	1.27	1.27	0.00	-
690	560	HIDEAST PHARM. 901	9	0.00	4	2000	940	1.58	1.57	-0.01	-

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1998

By Linda C. Black, Tribune Media Services, Inc.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Your attention this week focuses on partnership and your partner's needs, especially over the weekend and into next week. There's team effort to be made. You and a group of people can actually accomplish something you and a partner want. This is not only going to be fun, it's also going to be bonding.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) You may feel you're not getting the support you need from an older person, but only because it's coming in a way you don't recognize. Instead of making your work easier, it could be making it harder. Don't complain. You're actually being trained to take on more responsibility, which could result in an increase in your paycheck.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) This is a fabulous day. You've got a grand trine in air signs going on, making you the lucky winner. You should find romance and travel both entertaining and propitious. You'll find what you want in both departments and perhaps even exceed your expectations. Definitely get out there and look for it.

**CANCER:** (June 22 to July 21) Money could come in today, possibly from work done in the past. This is a good time to ask for a raise, too. If you need funding to fix up your house, you're in luck. Looks like a loan is available, or maybe there's a little room on your credit card. Just don't forget that you'll have to pay it back, plus interest.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) It looks like you're drawing a lot of attention. The very person you'd like to avoid is watching your every move. This could get kind of uncomfortable at times. You're being asked to perform, but it's not a role of your choosing. It's a little more pressure than you'd prefer, but don't worry. You'll do magnificently.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) You've got plenty of work to do, but that's OK. It's helping money come in. You're lucky financially right now, so it's time to call in debts that other people owe you. You're feeling stronger and more decisive. This is a natural result of the skills you're acquiring. So keep practising.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Something that happened in the past is causing a bit of a problem. Once you get that ironed out, other troubles might magically heal themselves as well. Communication is one of the healing arts, which you know that today, by getting a loved one to talk about something that's been kept hidden.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) The moon is in Aquarius, which could mean you may have to curtail your activities. That's OK. You can do the homework instead of taking action right now. You're anxious to get started, but you need to do a little more preparation. Plan to make your move tomorrow instead and you'll be more successful.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Your brain's particularly keen today, so use it to plot your escape to far islands. Actually, if you did run off to Tahiti, you'd find yourself yearning for Pago Pago. That's a Sagittarius trait. Before you set sail, it might help to have a little more education. Find out what you need to learn, and learn it.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) This could be a good day for you financially. The money is available, but you may have to pass a test to get it. You don't necessarily have to give the answer the professor wants, however. You'll do better if you give the answer he or she needs to hear. This could be kind of fun after all.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You're starting out the month in a good mood. That sun in Libra helps you learn difficult new material. You love a challenge, and today you're liable to find one. Don't worry. It's not going to be difficult at all. It's going to be more like fun. You might find the answer before anybody else realizes there was a question.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) If you put your ear to the keyhole, you might learn something that could help you plan your next move. There may also be money involved. Some of it could even be your money, so you'd better pay attention to what's going on around you. This is not a good day to drift off into dreamland. Listen and learn instead.

Birthstone of October: Opal — Tourmaline

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1998

By Linda C. Black, Tribune Media Services, Inc.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Analyse the situation and come up with a plan first thing this morning, so you can put it into action later in the day. The opportunity will present itself, although the situation might be a little difficult. Move carefully to keep from upsetting the apple cart. This is no time to get boisterous or outrageous.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) This is a tough workday, and it doesn't slack up for a minute. By evening, however, there will be time to celebrate your recent accomplishments. Stop by your favourite watering hole on the way home from work, or have everybody over to your place. If you want to get really rowdy, better stay home.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) There's something an older person wants that you can do. It's not hard, it's just that you'll have to think about something other than yourself for a little while. Not that you're selfish, but it is kind of difficult for you. This investment will pay great dividends, however, so watch for it.

**CANCER:** (June 22 to July 21) Wrap up business as early as possible so you can get on the road. This will be a great weekend for travel, especially tonight and tomorrow. You have chores that need to be done at home, but they'll wait. This will be an ongoing theme for a while. Perhaps you're actually travelling to get something to fix up your place.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) You may want to take some work home with you, but there's already plenty of it there. That's OK. It'll be marvellous to finally finish this stuff. You'll need help, but it's available. Other people are keeping tabs on you. If you're not around when you need them, don't worry. You'll have brownie points you can cash in later.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) The moon is going into Pisces today, which draws you out. You're a pretty tough person, but if there's anything in your life that you'd rather not deal with right now, you can bet it'll come up. This is for your own good, so don't complain. It's coaching, remember?

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Your workload is intense right now, but in a subtle way. You aren't quite sure what needs to be done, and that's part of the problem. Nobody's going to tell you, either, at least not the most important part. Consult a gentle person who's a good listener — but this time, you do the listening.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Spend time making phone calls this morning. The puzzle pieces are falling together and the path you should take is becoming more obvious. You can achieve much greater success if you do the planning. You already knew that. What you don't know was what you'll learn as you go about making plans today. Keep an open mind.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) The moon is going into Pisces, which slows you down a little. You need time to ponder what you've recently discovered, so don't rush into anything right now. There's also something valuable a roommate or loved one can provide. When everything's ready, you'll shoot forward to success. Meanwhile, take it easy.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Do whatever needs to be done to make sure the money comes in. Then you can devote time to practising a new skill. You have natural talent, and that will be even more obvious after you practise a little more. Don't worry. That work will propel you to achieving a goal you never dreamed possible.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Your focus today should shift to practical matters, like how you're going to pay the rent. Not to worry. The money's coming in. Your problem is that you'd like to buy gifts with it. Why don't you do that? Not with everything, of course. Just get something special for your mate, to show you care. It's a wise investment.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Conditions today will give you the strength to speak up about something important. You often let other people do what they want just to keep from drawing attention. You like to keep a low profile, but today that might not be possible. Looks like something is going on that involves you, so you'd better speak up.

Birthstone of October: Opal — Tourmaline

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## Report alleges drugs cover-up in Italy

MILAN (AFP) — Italian anti-doping officials covered up a positive test given by a Udinese player after a match in January, the *Corriere della Sera* reported on Wednesday.

The allegation targets the test laboratory at Acqua Acetosa at the centre of a drugs fiasco which on Monday cost the job of Italian sports chief Mario Pescante, president of the national Olympic committee (CONI).

The cover-up has been discovered by Turin state prosecutor Raffaele Guariniello, who is leading a judicial enquiry into drugs in Italian football.

Four players were tested after the league match on January 4 in Rome in which Udinese beat AS Roma 2-1. And traces of a banned stimulant were found in one of the 'A' samples, according to a lab expert.

The expert was then told to keep quiet about the discovery, the paper said.

Hours later, the expert looked for the relevant 'B' sample, which should have remained in a sealed container, but the container was eventually found with the seal broken and all trace of the test gone.

Top Italian sports officials knew about the affair but also kept quiet, the paper claimed, adding though that the test results were probably never passed on to either the club or the player.

Guariniello would not comment on the report as he entered his offices in Turin on Wednesday morning, saying only: "I don't know anything about it."

Udinese's managing director Pierpaolo Marino said: "To say that we know nothing of this affair is an understatement. But clearly there are people who want to dish the dirt on Udinese."

"The club reserves the

right to take any legal action necessary to defend its image and honour. The problem is that we don't know the facts of the matter or what we should be defending ourselves against."

"But I can confirm the fairness of both the club and the players."

The laboratory at Acqua Acetosa has been in the eye of a drugs storm for the past four weeks, since it was revealed that only a fraction of the 4,000 samples sent there by football clubs were ever tested for steroids.

Its secretary general Emilio Gasbarrone has been suspended and the official with ultimate responsibility for the lab, Giorgio Santilli, president of the Italian Sports Doctors Federation, has been sacked.

The Corriere's allegations are dynamite for a number of reasons.

Firstly, a CONI enquiry concluded last month that there was no doping in Italian soccer — a claim which was also sustained by the football federation chief Luciano Nizzola, who said: "Football is clean."

Pescante and Nizzola both subsequently claimed that neither knew that the testing routine at Acqua Acetosa was a sham.

Secondly, a defence put forward by laboratory officials is that resources there were hopelessly inadequate and that since no-one genuinely believed that footballers used drugs, it was better to devote resources to other sports.

That defence, already rickety in itself, will be utterly demolished, along with a lot of reputations, if the paper's allegations of a cover-up are true.

The claims will inevitably be examined by a government enquiry into the doping scandal, ordered by

deputy prime minister Walter Veltroni and led by jurist Carlo Federico Grosso. Grosso will make his report on October 24.

Three top Italian sports officials were meanwhile being tipped as Pescante's possible successors on Wednesday.

Pescante's resignation has done nothing to ease the turmoil in Italian sport, which now faces the prospect of either the election of a new president or the scrapping of the entire CONI leadership.

The elections are due within two months of a CONI council meeting on Thursday, with the likely candidates including swimming federation chief Bartolo Consolo, basketball boss Gianni Petrucci and the CONI's secretary general Raffaele Pagnozzi.

However, there is every chance the elections will be ditched.

Veltroni was already expected by many to sack the entire leadership and put a temporary commissaire in charge — and that possibility can only have increased with the Corriere's revelations.

Veltroni believes that too many mistakes have been made by the CONI, which in Italy doubles as the sports ministry, and that sweeping reforms are needed.

Names are already being tipped for the job of commissaire, who would spend the next six months clearing up the organisation before calling fresh elections and withdrawing from the scene.

Inter Milan president Massimo Moratti is one, although some would like to see him permanently in the top job.

## UEFA CUP

### Stuttgart in stunning comeback; Collymore hits 3 in Villa triumph; Schalke ousted on penalties

LONDON (AP) — VfB Stuttgart made one of the greatest comebacks in UEFA Cup history Tuesday, scoring a 3-0 victory over Feyenoord in Rotterdam to overturn the Dutch club's 3-1 first leg lead.

German international striker Fredi Bobic scored the winning goal in the second minute of injury time after a goalmouth scramble to put his team into the second round.

The dramatic ending came after strikes by Bulgarian star Krassimir Balakov and Kristijan Djordjevic had wiped out the two-goal advantage Feyenoord had earned in Stuttgart.

"Stuttgart played excellently," admitted Rotterdam coach Leo Beenhakker. "In the away match, we had our best season performance, today our worst. We tried to forget the 3-1 in Stuttgart — obviously we didn't succeed."

On a bitter-sweet night for German teams, Schalke, which won the title two seasons ago, went out on penalties. Werder Bremen scored two extra time goals to oust another Norwegian team, Brann, and Bayer Leverkusen downed one of the tough Italian clubs, Udinese, 1-0.

Schalke tumbled 1-0 at Slavia Prague for 1-1 overall and then lost 5-4 in the penalty shootout when home keeper Radek Cerny fisted out Marco van Hoogdalem's weakly placed spot kick.

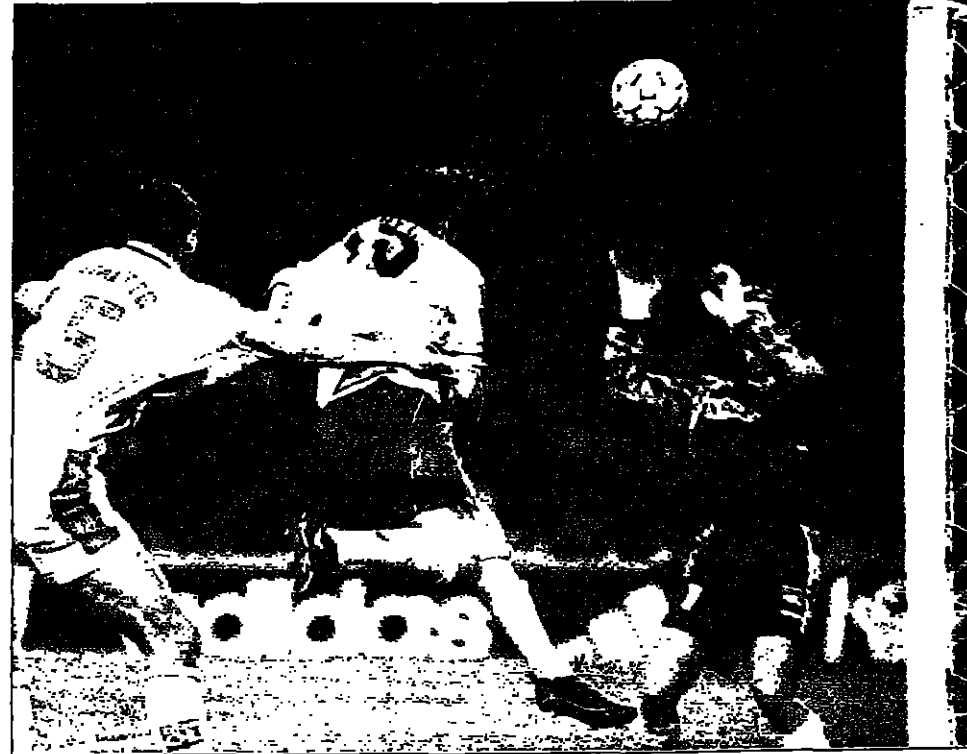
In Bremen, goals by Raphael Wicky and Andre Wiedener wiped out Brann's first leg lead before Juri Maximov and Havard Flo hit two more in four extra time minutes.

Stefan Beinlich fired Bayer Leverkusen's game-clinching goal after 77 minutes against Udinese in one of the best matchups of the first round. The two teams had tied 1-1 in Italy.

Stan Collymore, who last hit the headlines for assaulting his TV star girlfriend in a Paris nightclub, marked his return to big-time soccer with a UEFA Cup hat-trick.

Collymore fired all three goals as Premier League leader Aston Villa overpowered Norway's Stromsgodset 3-0 to reach the second round.

A talented but erratic striker whose off-field behavior infuriates colleagues, coaches and fans, the former Nottingham



Blackburn Rovers' Sebastien Perez, center, heads the ball over Olympique Lyon's goalkeeper Gregory Coupet to score his team's first goal during their UEFA Cup match in Lyon. The match ended with a 2-2 draw, with Lyon advancing 3-2 on aggregate (AP Photo)



Celta Vigo's Russian player Alexander Mostovoi (left) fights for a loose ball with an unidentified player of Arges (Romania) during a first round second leg UEFA Cup match in Vigo which Celta won 7-0 to advance to the next round (AP Photo)

Forest and Liverpool striker fired Villa into a 2-0 lead by the 23rd minute and added a third in the 64th as John Gregory's team advanced on a 6-2 aggregate having looked two weeks ago that it was on the way out.

The Villains trailed the Norwegian team 2-0 with only 10 minutes to go at Villa Park but turned that game around for a 3-2 first leg victory. Jamie Redknapp and Robbie Fowler both scored twice as Liverpool, already 3-0 up from the away leg, crushed Slovakia's Kosice 5-0 at Anfield for an 8-0 overall triumph. Paul Ince added the other.

Italian club overturned 1-0 Fenerbahce's first leg advantage to win 3-1 on the night and 3-2 overall.

The Turkish team had hit back from two goals down to reply through Elvir Balic. That away goal could have proved crucial until Alain Boghossian hit a third for Parma with 18 minutes to go.

Red Star Belgrade needed to win a shootout after losing 2-1 at French club Metz, which had United States World Cup player David Regis sent off after 52 minutes for a late tackle on Miodrag Pantelic.

The two teams were tied at 3-3 but Red Star gained a 4-3 shootout win after Nenad Jestrovic and Danny Boffin missed vital penalties for the French runner up, which has scored only one goal in seven domestic league games this season.

Monaco, which gained the semifinal of the Champions Cup last season, eased into the second round of the UEFA Cup with a 0-0 tie with Poland's Lodz having already won the first leg 3-1.

Dynamo Moscow survived a late fightback by Larvia's Skonto to win 3-2 in Riga and advance 5-4 overall. Fiorentina fought out a tough 0-0 tie with Hajduk Split in Croatia to advance 2-1 while Bologna fell behind before scoring a 2-1 home win over Sporting Lisbon to advance comfortably 4-1.

Dutch club Vitesse shared in a 3-3 tie with AEK in Athens but was already 3-0 ahead from the first leg.

Christophe Dugary and Robert Pires each scored twice — as Olympique Marseille overpowered Czech club Sigma Olomouc 4-0 for a 6-2 overall triumph.

Bulgarian star Luboslav Penev scored three of Celta Vigo's goals in a 7-0 crushing of Romania's Arges as the Spanish club went through 8-0 overall.

And Ivan Perez hit three for Real Betis in a 5-0 trouncing of Danish club Vejle which had led 1-0 from the first leg. Nigerian star Finidi George scored another of the Betis goals.

Valencia was another Spanish club to make it to the second round after a 3-0 victory over Steaua Bucharest. Three second half goals made it 7-3 overall for Valencia.



Carlos Moya

## FloJo remembrance set for Sunday

INDIANAPOLIS (AFP) — Florence Griffith Joyner, the world record-setting sprinter who died last week at age 38 of a heart seizure, will be remembered at ceremonies here on Sunday.

USA Track and Field and the Indiana Pacers, the National Basketball Association club whose uniforms Joyner redesigned in 1990, will conduct ceremonies at Market Square Arena.

Griffith Joyner set the women's 100-metre world record of 10.49 seconds here at the 1988 U.S. Olympic trials, although many have contended the mark was wind-aided.

Speaking at the event will be Al Joyner, the 1984 Olympic triple jump champion and Griffith Joyner's husband, several 1988 Olympians and U.S. athletics and Olympic officials.

## Moya advances in Mallorca Open

PALMA DE MALLORCA, Balearic Islands (AP) — Top seed and World No. 5 Carlos Moya of Spain defeated little-known Rumanian Ion Moldovan Tuesday in the first round of the Mallorca Open clay-court tennis tournament.

Moya, a local hero from this Mediterranean Spanish island, took the first set 6-4. Moldovan forced a tie-break in the second set that Moya eventually won 13-11.

In other first round play Tuesday, fourth seeded Spaniard Alberto Berasategui defeated Ecuador's Nicolas Lapentti 6-1, 6-4. Sergio Bruguera of Spain also advanced to the second round with a straight sets win over Czech Jiri Novak 6-3, 6-3.

Spain's Julian Alonso was less fortunate, retiring in the second set with wrist problems after losing the first to fellow countryman Fernando Vicente 6-1.

Also Tuesday Czech Slava Dosedel overcame Carlos Costa of Spain 6-4, 6-3. Tommy Haas of Germany defeated Bohdan Ulihrach of the Czech Republic 6-1, 3-6, 6-2, and Mariano Puerta of Argentina eliminated Spaniard Javier Sanchez 6-3, 6-7 (5-7), 6-1.

In the only doubles match, Brazilian pair Gustavo Kuerten and Fernando Meligeni defeated U.S. partnership Brandon Coupe and Jack Waite.

## NBA players kick off Lebanon tour despite U.S. travel warning

BEIRUT (AFP) — Ten players from the National Basketball Association (NBA) kicked off their first Middle East exhibition tour in Beirut on Wednesday despite a U.S. warning that Lebanon is a dangerous place to visit.

"Our objective is to assert that Lebanon has undoubtedly become a safe country capable of hosting everybody and from all nationalities," said tour organisers Future Television.

The U.S. embassy in Beirut advised Americans in Lebanon on September 9 to adopt "extreme security precautions" after fears of deadly attacks similar to those last month on U.S. diplomatic missions in

Kenya and Tanzania.

Washington last year lifted a travel ban on Americans visiting Lebanon imposed after a spate of anti-U.S. attacks during the 1975-1990 civil war. But it said Lebanon was still dangerous to visit.

"This is also an unprecedented event in the entire Arab world and the Middle East," said the statement from Future, owned by Lebanon's billionaire Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

The NBA team, led by coach Tony Ronzone, will open the exhibition tour with a game Wednesday against an all-star Lebanese team, inaugurating a new indoor stadium in Beirut.

The U.S. players will also hold games with Lebanon's basketball Sporting Club and a visiting Arab all-star team. They will also take part in slam-dunk and three-point shoot-out contests this weekend.

The NBA team is made up of 10 rising players, including the Sacramento Kings' Michael Stewart — an NBA all-star in 1997-1998 — as well as the Chicago Bulls' James Penny and Orlando Magic's Del Demps.

The others are Rick Brunson from the Portland Trail Blazers, Greg Buckner and Brad Davis from the Dallas Mavericks, David Wood from

the San Antonio Spurs. Anthony Carter from the Detroit Pistons, Sam Mak from Vancouver and the Canadian National team's David Daniels.

The Harlem Globe Trotters will also visit Beirut on October 23, to hold a series of their highly-popular exhibition games, another first in the Middle East.

"These are all important events for basketball in Lebanon. They will surely increase an already growing popularity for the game and will also help Lebanese players improve their techniques," said a sports commentator.

TODAY AT	CINEMA TEL: 4634144	CINEMA TEL: 4634144	CINEMA TEL: 5699238	CINEMA TEL: 5677420	CINEMA TEL: 5934793	CINEMA TEL: 5934793	Heham Vines Theatre TEL: 4625155
	PHILADELPHIA '1'	PHILADELPHIA '2'	PLAZA	CONCORD	GALLERIA 1	GALLERIA 2	
	Lawrence Fishburn & Andy Garcia .. in <b>HOODLUM</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30	John Travolta & Olivia Newton-John .. in <b>GREASE</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30	Comedian Adel Imam .. in <b>AL ZATEEM</b> Shows: 6:30, 9:30 Additional shows Thursday and Friday evenings at 12:30	CONCORD "1" <b>NASSER</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 CONCORD "2" <b>UP CLOSE &amp; PERSONAL</b> Shows: 3:30, 5:30 only	ABDOUN www.cns.com.jo/Galleria <b>ARMAGEDDON</b> Shows: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:45	ABDOUN www.cns.com.jo/Galleria Leonardo Di Caprio & Robert DeNiro .. in <b>MARVIN'S ROOM</b> Shows: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30	Watch out for the new play



# 10th Arabian Horse Festival

## Jordanian entries command the show

By Randa Naffa

**HUMMAR** — Jordan's Arabian horses swept the board at the Royal Stables Wednesday with Jaafar and Royal Jordanian Studs sharing most of the titles on the second day of the 10th Arabian Horse Show. Jaafar Stud's impressive entries came in first place in three out of eight classes. In addition, MB Kershana and Royal won Senior Female and Male titles respectively. Horses of the Royal Jordanian Stud also showed extraordinary form by topping two classes as Al Hamamah and Hlayil Ramadan won the Best Male and Female Head titles. In Class competition, MB Kershana and S.N. Wasama of Jaafar Stud topped Class 9 (mares born 90-93), and Class 10 (mares born 86-89) respectively. Class 11 (mares born before 1986) was won by Shakra, one of the leading Jordanian entries of Hussein Mirza, while Kohl El Oyoum of Jordan's Taleb Al Nahar won Class 12 (stallions born 1994). Kamar El Zaman of the Royal Jordanian Stud, a winner on the first day, topped Class 13 (stallions born 1990-1993), and Royal of Jaafar Stud won Class 14 (stallions born 1986-1989). Class 15 (stallions born before 1986) was won by Verinage of Jordan's Al Khair Stud; Class 16 (female under training) was won by Safaa, daughter of former four-time



HRH Princess Alia receives the trophy won by Al Hamama of the Royal Jordanian Stud for Best Female Head (photo by Abdullah Ayyoub)

winner Jerash of Royal Jordanian Stud, while Class 17 (stallions under training) was won by Fakher Al Khaliq of Jordan's Adnan Awamleh. Attending the event were Royal family members, the ambassador of the United Arab Emirates and World endurance race Champion Taher Al Taher of Saudi Arabia. President of the Royal Jordanian Equestrian Federation, HRH Princess Alia Bint Al Hussein presented trophies to the winners including HRH Princess Zein Bint Al Hussein who expressed happiness at the performance of her horses from Jaafar Stud and attributed the success to the "skilful training and good handling they received," she said. "I am very delighted with the level of competition which has witnessed a qualitative leap in the breeding and training of horses," the Princess told the Jordan Times. Emma Maxwell from the U.K., who has been working as a handler for 10 years, was happy with the results of entries from Jaafar Stud where she has been working for the past two years. "Although the horses don't know me very much, I seem to have experience dealing with strange horses," she told the Jordan Times. The competitive and serious show was softened when organisers announced that one of the competing horses was giving birth. Thursday will witness the racing event which will be held at the Royal Race Club in Tunaib. The four-day event includes 165 entries from Qatar, the UAE, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria and the United States competing with the host country and will be concluded with the Middle East Championship Friday.

# Kufroum beat Hussein to win 1st ever title

By a Staff Reporter

**AMMAN** — Premier League newcomers Kufroum Wednesday scored a major upset over Al Hussein to win the 1998 Jordan Football Association (JFA) Shield Championship, one of the country's four elite annual soccer competitions. Kufroum, who were only promoted to the prestigious top-ten group three years ago, beat their rivals 1-0 to win their first ever major soccer title. The final match had unusual finalists this year as the top teams were eliminated mainly due to the fact that Al Wihdat, Al Faisali and Al Ramtha — all of whom have won the Shield four times — competed without their national team players who were on duty with the Kingdom's team in the Arab Cup in Qatar.

Al Faisali dropped out of the event after losing to both finalists; Al Wihdat were out after losing to Al Qadissieh and Shabab Al Hussein, while Al Ramtha also lost to Kufroum last week. Al Hussein and Kufroum met Monday night and the event would have ended had Al Hussein won since they had maintained an unbeaten record throughout the tournament. Kufroum, on the other hand had lost one match early in the competition, and therefore had to first defeat Al Hussein to force a deciding match which they did by beating Al Hussein 2-1. Al Hussein's last and only major title was the 1994 Shield in which they beat Al Faisali while Kufroum had never won any of the four major titles. The JFA Shield is the last major soccer event of the season. There are two more weeks remaining for the conclusion of the first leg of Premier League which will resume Oct. 4.

Al Wihdat, looking for their 5th consecutive Premier League title, won the first of the season's titles when they clinched their fourth Cup Winners' Cup. Al Faisali beat Al Wihdat to win their record 10th Jordan Cup last month. They currently top Premier League standings on goal difference over Al Wihdat. Al Faisali's last major titles were the 1995 Jordan Cup and the 1997 Federation Shield. Al Wihdat have won the Jordan Cup and Cup Winners' Cup in the last two years and the Premier League in the last four years.

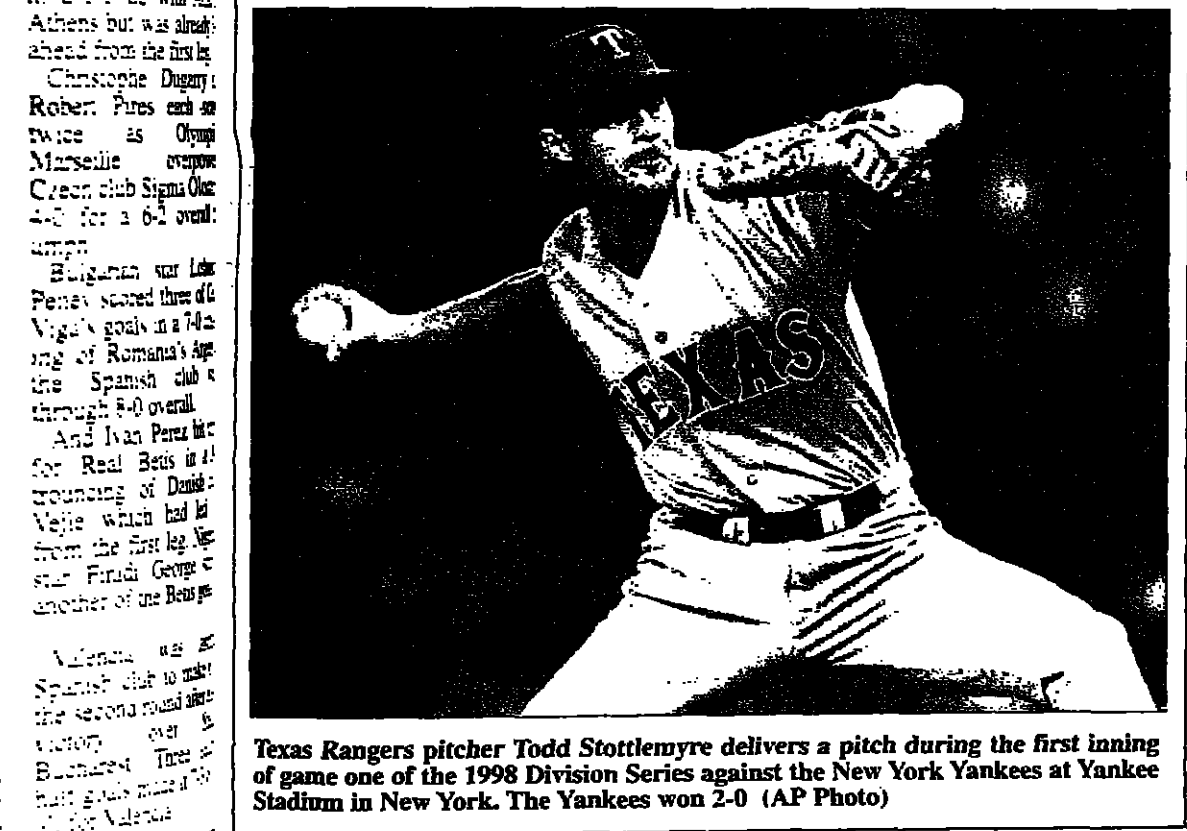
# S. Arabia meet Qatar in Arab Cup final

By a Staff Reporter

**THE ARAB CUP** concludes in Doha, Qatar, Thursday when the hosts play Saudi Arabia in the final match of the 12-team event. The Saudis beat Kuwait 2-1 in the semifinal while Qatar overcame the UAE by the same score to reach the final. Kuwait who eliminated titleholders Egypt, face the UAE for third and fourth places before the final which ends a week of competition in which Jordan was eliminated in the first round. The Saudis eliminated Lebanon and Algeria, while Sudan, playing their inaugural Arab Cup, upset Morocco before losing to the UAE. Egypt and the rest of North African countries entered their Olympic teams rather than national teams in preparation for the Sydney Olympics. Jordan's team failed to clinch the sole qualifying berth from Group 1 after losing 2-0 to Qatar and beating Libya 2-1. Jordan's Yugoslav coach was quoted by newspapers as saying "the players lacked the team spirit and disregarded team officials and needed to be disciplined."

Jordan's elimination was the sixth time the team failed to get past the first round throughout their seven participations since the championship first kicked off in 1963. The Kingdom achieved the best result in the 5th cup hosted in Amman in 1988 where Jordan took fourth place. Jordan has played a total of 23 Arab Cup matches winning only four, drawing in three and losing 16 matches. To this day, the team scored only 15 goals while allowing 54 in.

Cash awards set by the Arab Soccer Federation are \$40,000 for the champion, \$30,000 for the runner up, and \$20,000 for the third and fourth-placed teams. Iraq are the four-time titleholders. Tunisia and Egypt have won it once each, while Syria are three time runners-up. The Jordanian team had training camps in Aqaba, Egypt, and Yugoslavia. The Kingdom's team qualified to the Arab Cup finals after beating Lebanon 2-0, drawing 1-1 with Palestine, and losing to Syria 3-0 in the preliminaries held in Beirut, Lebanon.



Texas Rangers pitcher Todd Stottlemyre delivers a pitch during the first inning of game one of the 1998 Division Series against the New York Yankees at Yankee Stadium in New York. The Yankees won 2-0 (AP Photo)

# FA await police report on 'worst violence in years'

**LONDON (AFP)** — The Football Association (FA) said Wednesday they are waiting for a police report before launching an investigation into violent clashes at Millwall's match against Manchester City on Tuesday. Hundreds of fans clashed with riot police during and after the 1-1 draw in the English division two match in what local police described as the worst football trouble they had witnessed for years. Three police dog handlers came under attack and one suffered minor injuries. Another officer was taken to hospital with a broken arm after a rock was thrown at him. Mobs of fans smashed car and shop windows. Eighteen fans were arrested. City's players were kept inside the stadium for their own safety and their departure was delayed for an hour after the match while their 2,500 fans were also locked inside the ground. Chief Inspector Chris Miles from Lewisham Police, who was in charge of operations at the ground, said: "The violence was absolutely horrifying, the worst I have seen for a long time."

# Tyson hearing delayed over missed deadline

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — Mike Tyson will have to wait a little longer to find out if he will be allowed to return to the ring. Tyson was supposed to go before Nevada boxing authorities Saturday for a final determination on his license. But the hearing was postponed Tuesday because of delays in getting reports on a battery of psychological tests performed on the former heavyweight champion. A date for the new hearing probably won't be determined until Thursday, said Marc Ramer, executive director of the Nevada Athletic Commission. "It's a matter of our doctors being able to read the reports and then getting all the commissioners together at one time," Ramer said. "I'll eventually come up with a date."

Tyson's doctors were to have the reports given to the commission by 5 p.m. Monday. But shortly after that time, the commission got a fax saying the reports were not completed and likely wouldn't be ready until Wednesday. Commissioner James Nave said that didn't give the commission enough time to go over the five days of tests performed on Tyson at Massachusetts General Hospital. The tests began Sept. 23. "We want enough time to do our homework," Nave said. The delay in the commission hearing could threaten plans by Tyson's advisers for the former champion to fight a comeback bout before the end of the year. Though Tyson has been training lightly, it would probably take more than two months to train properly for and promote the fight. Dr. Ronald Schouten, head of the team that examined Tyson, sent a letter to commission chairman Dr. Elias Ghanem, saying the reports would be completed Wednesday. "Unfortunately, due to the length of the evaluation process, the scoring on the psychological and neuropsychological testing have not been completed," Schouten wrote.

Ghanem said he was disappointed the reports were not ready. The commission is to determine whether Tyson could regain the boxing license that was stripped from him for biting Evander Holyfield's ears. Tyson adviser Jeff Wald said he has not seen the results of the tests but believes they will clear Tyson to box again. "I assume if they found him unfit to box they would have told us," Wald said. Tyson underwent a six-hour hearing Sept. 19 before the commission, which was unhappy with the limited scope of psychological testimony presented on behalf of the former heavyweight champion and ordered that independent tests be conducted. The testing had appeared to be the only obstacle standing in the way of the commission relicensing Tyson, following the first hearing.

# Agassi wins in 34 minutes

**MUNICH (AP)** — Andre Agassi rolled over Cedric Pioline 6-0, 6-0 in only 34 minutes Wednesday to storm into the quarterfinals of the \$6.7 million Grand Slam Cup. In the quickest match since the tournament's inception in 1990, Pioline won only eight points in the first set and nine in the second against an Agassi playing with amazing confidence. Agassi was given a wild card to play in the tournament, which nominally brings together players with best records in the year's four Grand Slam events — the Australian, French and U.S. Open and Wimbledon. But three men's Grand Slam champions of the year have decided to skip the tournament despite its huge prize money — Wimbledon champion and top-ranked Pete Sampras, U.S. Open champion Patrick Rafter and Carlos Moya, the French Open champion. Only Australian Open champion Petr Korda is among the 12 men here. "Regardless of who is not here, this is still a great tournament," Agassi said. For his short work, Agassi earned \$175,000. Even more amazingly, Pioline picked up \$100,000 given to first-round losers — without even winning a game and hardly breaking a sweat. With the official scorecard giving the duration of the match at 34 minutes, it means Agassi made \$5,147 a minute, while Pioline made \$2,941 a minute in his losing effort. Agassi, ranked No. 8 in the world, hit winners from all over the court from the start and the Frenchman never had a chance. Agassi, a former No. 1 who is making a comeback after dropping out of the top 100, has won four titles this year. But his Grand Slam record for the year is relatively poor: Round of 16 at the Australian and the U.S. Open his best showing. "I've come here very prepared and I'll feel more satisfied I do well since I got a wild card," said Agassi, a winner of three Grand Slam titles in his career.

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## Mubarak: Bombed Sudanese plant was near chemical factory

CAIRO (AFP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said Wednesday that a pharmaceutical plant in Sudan destroyed in a U.S. missile attack last month was located near a chemical factory.

The United States claimed that the Al Shifa factory it bombed on Aug. 20 was financed by alleged Islamist mastermind Osama Ben Laden and produced Empta, a chemical that could be used in the deadly VX gas.

"The Americans monitored the [Al Shifa]," Mubarak said in interview with Al Ahran

government newspaper.

"We know that this factory was for medicine," Mubarak said of Al Shifa. "But it is possible that it produced, as you say, material that goes into the production of chemical weapons," Mubarak said.

"I think you know that pharmaceutical factories can also produce material which can be used for making chemical weapons," he added.

The United States launched missile strikes against Al Shifa and alleged Islamist bases in Afghanistan in retaliation for the Aug. 7 bombings of U.S.

embassies in Kenya and Tanzania that killed 258 people.

Washington claims that Sudan was producing a precursor of lethal VX nerve gas at Al Shifa.

But several U.S. officials told the New York Times last week that Washington had no direct or convincing proof to link Al Shifa to chemical weapons production or to Ben Laden, accused by the United States of masterminding the east African embassy bombings.

## Mubarak calls for lifting embargo on Libya

CAIRO (AFP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said Wednesday the United Nations should lift the embargo on Libya because it has cut ties with terrorism, got rid of chemical weapons and expelled Islamists.

"Colonel [Muammar] Qadhafi feels that the U.N. embargo imposed on his country is long overdue," Mubarak told government newspaper Al Ahran.

"He has the right to be angry because he expected the Arab League to boycott the U.N.-imposed sanctions," Mubarak said, referring to Qadhafi's decision to scrap Libya's Arab unity ministry to protest at a lack of Arab support in its crisis with the West.

"He [Qadhafi] has cut

links with terrorism, he has stopped from financing terrorists, got rid of chemical weapons and expelled all Islamists from his country," Mubarak said.

"Despite all this he did not find a positive reaction."

The United Nations imposed an air and arms embargo on Libya in 1992 over its refusal to hand over suspects wanted in connection with the 1988 bombing of a passenger plane over Lockerbie, Scotland, that killed 270 people.

Qadhafi has agreed to extradite two Libyan suspects to stand trial in the Netherlands but he is demanding guarantees from the United States and Britain which are demanding the pair.

Mubarak said Qadhafi

was right to ask for guarantees.

"What if they said we want Qadhafi to testify? This would be possible in the absence of any clarification. Clear explanations are needed to ease Libya's fears in order to carry out this operation [trial] and get it over with," Mubarak said.

An Arab League ministerial conference in mid-September said Arab countries would stop complying with the sanctions once an agreement on the guarantees is reached between Libya and the West.

African countries, however, are now boycotting the sanctions and several African leaders have violated the air ban in recent weeks.

## Algeria's Zeroual rejects call to stay, vows fair poll

ALGIERS (R) — Algerian President Liamine Zeroual on Wednesday rejected calls to stay in power for another two years and vowed to organise a "fair and free" early election for his replacement in February.

The main ruling National Democratic Rally (RND), which groups Zeroual's staunch supporters, on Tuesday urged the 56-year-old former army general to complete his term saying the violence-torn North African country needed his leadership to restore peace.

But Zeroual told leaders of Algeria's 11 "legal" parties during a meeting at the presidential palace that he would not rescind his decision to step down 21 months before the end of his term of office.

"The head of the state [Zeroual] reminded the political leaders attending the meeting that he took his decision on the grounds that after five years in power the

moment has come for the election of a new president," a statement by his office said.

"The next presidential election would be transparent, free and fair to give it the appropriate credibility," said the statement, carried by the state-run APS news agency.

The statement gave no details on why Zeroual had decided to step down in the first place.

Western diplomats have said that Zeroual's decision followed a clash with the powerful military establishment opposed to any dialogue with radical Islamists who are engaged in a brutal six-year battle.

Political sources have said the RND appeared concerned that early election could erode its small majority of 156 seats in the parliament as other parties vie to broaden their power base with new alliances.

The RND attended the

talks along with its junior partners in the government — the Islamist-oriented Movement for a Peaceful Society (MPS) and the former ruling National Liberation Front (FLN).

Zeroual was appointed head of state by a military council in January 1994 before he won the country's first pluralist election in November 1995 with more than 60 per cent of the vote.

But critics have blamed him for failing to deliver on his election pledges to ease a chronic housing shortage and high unemployment seen as fuelling discontent among the youth who represent nearly two-thirds of Algeria's population of 29 million.

Algeria has been racked by civil strife since January 1992 when the authorities cancelled a general election in which radical Islamists had taken a commanding lead.

## Iranian president looks to improved ties with Germany

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iranian President Mohammad Khatami said Wednesday he hoped for improved ties with Germany after Gerhard Schroeder's victory in Sunday's elections.

"We hope that the long-lasting relations between the two countries will expand towards bilateral interests and higher aims," Khatami said in a congratulatory letter to Schroeder, the official news agency IRNA reported.

The Iran News, an English-language daily close to the foreign ministry, urged Bonn on Wednesday to free an Iranian national, Kazem Darabi, jailed in Germany over the killing of dissidents in Berlin six years ago, to pave the way for better relations.

Chancellor-elect Schroeder's victory would bring "new opportunities" for improving bilateral relations, the newspaper said.

It said Germany could

achieve the same level of relations with Iran as France and Italy, but warned that if Bonn wants to be Iran's top economic partner, at least in the short-term, it has to release Darabi.

Darabi was sentenced to life in prison in April 1997, at the end of a long trial over the assassination of four Iranian Kurd dissidents in Berlin in 1992.

The verdict, which implicated the Tehran's Islamic regime in the murders, provoked an unprecedented diplomatic crisis which was only resolved seven months later.

Relations took another sour turn early this year when an Iranian court passed a death sentence against a German national, Helmut Hofer, who is alleged to have had "illegal" sexual affairs with a Muslim Iranian woman.

An appeals court later threw out the sentence, and it is due to issue a new verdict on Thursday, according to

German sources.

The Iran News urged Germany to follow France's example when it freed in August an Iranian national, Masoud Hendi, who had been jailed since 1991 in connection with the assassination of former Iranian Prime Minister Shahpour Bakhtiari.

"The new Bonn government has new opportunities with the new Iranian government. It can cleanse the taint that has been caused to the ties," it said. The paper predicted that Germany's new leaders had a 50 per cent chance of improving relations with Iran.

"While Germany's top leaders hold positive views towards Iran, there's a danger that the coalition Green Party may harbour some negative views about the Islamic republic," it warned. "Iran does not consider them as reliable."



CLEANING PROTECTION'S MOUTH: A hotel employee cleans dust and grime from the mouth of a marble lion, which is placed in front of the premise's entrance with another for 'protection,' Wednesday in Beijing, a day before China celebrates National Day (AFP photo)

## Afghan defectors say they were flying Iranian weapons

KABUL (R) — Five crew-

members of an Afghan opposition transport plane who defected to the Taliban said Wednesday they had been ferrying Iranian and Russian ammunition for the commander of the Islamic militia's last major foe.

Half of the ammunition came from Russia and half from Iran, the pilot, Commander Mohammad Khan, told a news conference hours after he landed the Antonov transport aircraft at Kabul's civilian and military airstrip on Tuesday night.

The defection was seen as a boost for the Taliban, who are locked in a bitter military standoff with Iran and are urging the United Nations to end Iranian "interference" in the country and to recognise the Taliban as its legal government.

The Taliban have often accused Iran and Russia of supplying arms and support to the opposition, but both countries have denied the claims.

Khan said that until recently he used to fly Russian and Iranian armaments to opposition bases in the north, specifically to the town of Mazar-i-Sharif.

Tension between the Taliban and Iran started when the Taliban admitted that some of their men, acting without orders, killed nine Iranian diplomats when the Islamic militia overran Mazar-e-Sharif last month.

The U.N. envoy for

Iran stages mock attacks near Afghan border

TEHRAN (R) — Iranian forces staged mock attacks close to the border with Afghanistan on Wednesday in preparation for war games involving 200,000 troops.

But there was no word on the start of the Zolfaqar-2 manoeuvres, which Iran said on Saturday would begin "within seven days."

State television showed shelling of an imaginary enemy by heavy artillery and tanks while helicopters fired rockets and waves of troops dashed across a dusty plain in Iran's eastern region.

The television said the first coordinated joint practice of armour, commandos and army aviation units was held in an area covering 50,000-square kilometres close to the border. It included an anti-chemical warfare operation.

Afghanistan. Lakhdar Brahimi, leaves for Iran and Pakistan next week to discuss the border tension between some 250,000 Iranian troops on army exercises and Taliban fighters along the border.

Khan, dressed in the black turban of Taliban fighters, appeared at the news conference with four members of the crew and said he had dropped the munitions off for opposition commander Ahmad Shah Masoud at Bagram air base, before flying to Kabul.

He said he was based in Kulyab, a military base used by Masoud to the south of Tajikistan, from where he flew supplies, mostly ammunition, to Bagram air base, some 60 kilometres north of

Kabul.

"We did not want to fight against our people and we hated to be tools in the hands of foreigners," Khan said. The crew said that their relatives lived in Kabul, but no more information about them was available.

Masoud's men are dug in 25 kilometres north of the Afghan capital in a military stalemate that has lasted for months. He is the only real opposition left for the Taliban, who control 95 per cent of the state after routing other groups this summer.

Russia and Iran consider Burhanuddin Rabbani, whom the Taliban ousted in 1996, as the legitimate government in Afghanistan. He holds the U.N. seat but the United Nations says it wants a broad-

based government to end factional fighting.

Khan said that Bagram was the only functioning air strip for transport planes used by Masoud, who serves as the military chief of the ousted government.

Transport planes occasionally carry supplies to Masoud at night from outside Afghanistan as Bagram is within the range of Taliban rockets, residents said.

Allauddin Agha, deputy head of Taliban air defence, told Reuters that armed opposition fighters were on board the plane and the pilot waited until he had unloaded them and the supplies at Bagram before defecting.

## U.S. to set up new consular section in Nairobi after bombing

NAIROBI (AFP) — The United States is strengthening a house in a Nairobi suburb, where it plans to resume consular services suspended after the Aug. 7 U.S. embassy bombing, U.S. officials said Wednesday.

Workers were reinforcing the interior of the residential building with metal and installing bullet and grenade-proof doors and windows.

Windows will be coated with eight-millimetre-thick plastic to prevent them from shattering in the event of an explosion, said Melissa Arkley, a U.S. consul here to oversee the

preparation of the premises.

"This is very, very strong security," Arkley, who guided reporters on a visit to the house, said. Security features being put into the house more than doubled the U.S. recommended standards, she added.

The reinforced new consular building will also have a "safe haven" room where staff can take refuge in the event of a terrorist attack.

The massive August 7 bomb attack, which coincided with a similar blast in Tanzania, killed 247 people, mostly Kenyans but including 12 Americans,

and injured some 5,000 others.

Arkley said processing of visa applications for Kenyans, which was suspended following the bomb blast, will resume as soon as construction work inside the house was completed and telephones lines and computers have been installed.

Kenyans intending to travel to the United States have been greatly inconvenienced since the bombing, as they have had to go to neighbouring countries or to Europe to apply for visas in U.S. embassies there.

The new consular section will be in operation until a

new temporary embassy, expected to be set up in an existing building outside the city centre, is ready for occupation sometime next year.

The U.S. embassy, situated in central Nairobi, was extensively damaged in the bomb blast and will have to be demolished, embassy spokesman Chris Sharf said.

U.S. Ambassador Prudence Bushnell last week said the new embassy will be built in the outskirts of the city as a security measure. She said she was now looking to acquire land for construction of the premises.

## Greek defence minister pledges support for Cyprus

LARNACA (AP) — Greece and Cyprus will continue to strengthen their joint defence capability against Turkey, the visiting Greek defence minister said Wednesday.

"Turkish expansionism and threats will be faced resolutely," Akis Tzochatzopoulos told reporters at the airport. He arrived on a Greek air force C-130 transport plane to join the island's independence day celebrations and

hold talks on the joint defence agreement with Cyprus.

The northern one-third of the Mediterranean island nation has been occupied by Turkey since 1974 when it invaded Cyprus. The southern portion of the island is controlled by Greek Cypriots.

The strengthening of the defence capability of Cyprus will continue without inter-

ruption," Tzochatzopoulos said.

The comments are seen as an indirect response to Turkey's warning that it will prevent the planned deployment later this year of S-300 anti-aircraft missiles Cyprus has bought from Russia.

The United States and other Western governments are pressing Cyprus to cancel the missile deployment and have also criticised Turkey

for its threats.

Cyprus President Glafcos Clerides says he will cancel the missile deployment if Turkey accepts his demilitarisation proposal or if there is progress in the U.N.-sponsored talks for the renunciation of the island.

The northern breakaway Turkish Cypriot state is only recognised by Turkey which maintains 35,000 troops there.



Prince Andrew undergoes drug tests

LONDON (AP) — Even Prince Andrew couldn't escape a random drug test at the Ministry of Defence, as part of the British navy's crackdown on drug use, Buckingham Palace confirmed Wednesday. The son of Queen Elizabeth II, a naval lieutenant commander who works at the site, was ordered to provide a urine sample by a team of navy investigators conducting on-the-spot tests. The prince's results were negative. Andrew "was absolutely happy to take part and accepts that it is part of the nature of the job," said a Buckingham Palace spokesman, speaking with customary anonymity.

## Man thought to be angry, turned out dead

MEXICO CITY (R) — Margarita Sanchez's husband didn't speak to her for eight days. She thought he was angry, but he wasn't. He was dead. Cayetano Sanchez, 83, died in bed more than a week ago, but his wife slept next to him every night for eight days before she realised the Mexican news agency Notimex reported Tuesday. State Judicial Police in the town of Huamantla, in the gulf coastal state of Veracruz, reported finding Sanchez's partially decomposed body with the covers up to his neck.

## New treatment keeps underarms dry for months

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Throw that antiperspirant away. A team of California scientists has developed a new treatment that can keep underarms dry for months — no roll-ons, no sprays, no powders required. What if it could cost as much as \$1,000 per year? At least you'll have peace of mind. Richard Glogau, a professor of dermatology at the University of California San Francisco, announced Tuesday that the treatment using Botox, a toxin derived from bacteria, could be the answer for those suffering from excessive sweating caused by overstimulation of the sweat glands by the autonomic nerves.

## Judge receives rare public reprimand

ORLANDO (R) — A judge who questioned a divorcing couple about their sex life and offered to father a child with the woman received a rare public reprimand from the Florida Supreme Court on Tuesday. The high court summoned Circuit Judge Leonard V. Wood, 61, to the state capital Tallahassee, citing six examples of his rude and inappropriate remarks from the bench. "He was trying to humiliate us," said Gary Lieberman, who appeared with his wife, Julie Smith-Lieberman, before Wood in 1997 for an uncontested divorce, expecting a five-minute hearing. According to the complaint they later filed, Wood forced them to disclose details of their sex life and urged them to stay married and have a baby.

## Stolen statue of Jesus turned into marijuana pipe

EASTPORT (R) — A New York man was arrested Tuesday on charges of possessing a stolen statue of the infant Jesus that had been turned into a marijuana pipe. The statue was stolen two years ago but returned anonymously in recent months to the Shrine of Our Lady of the Island in Eastport, N.Y., police said. The statue's stomach and head had been hollowed out, and it had been converted into a type of marijuana pipe known as a bong.

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